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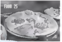

KIND of BLUE

Will the Bay Area jazz scene ever live up to its ambitions?

By Rachel Swan

ECO WATCH 8

CO-OP LOWERS STANDARDS

Organic Valley strikes deal with factory farm

CULTURE SPY 16

SHOUTS AND MURMURS

Has the Oakland Art Murmur become a victim of its own success? By Ellen Cushing

In late-2005, when a group of local galleries got together and formed the ragtag art collective now known as Art Murmur, no one could've predicted what it would become. Six years later, the group's signature event, a monthly art walk, has evolved into a full-on cultural phenomenon, drawing thousands of people and diverting traffic around 23rd Street and Telegraph Avenue. But with this popularity came a set of new concerns — concerns that, ultimately, led one of the galleries that founded the Murmur, Rock Paper Scissors Collective, to leave the group and start its own event, Oakland Art Ride. *Story inside*

NEWS 11

REACTING TO GUNS AT BHS

Will security measures backfire?

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On the Cover *Ambrose Akinmusire. Photograph by Clay Patrick McBride.*

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NEWS & OPINION

EAST BAY EXPRESS
LAST-MINUTE DELIGHT

LETTERS

ABC Security Responds

As a local woman business owner, I am deeply concerned about recent misrepresentations of my character, my company and my employees. The inaccuracies, poor journalism, and biases displayed by Mr. Robert Gammon in the *East Bay Express*, have prompted me to speak up.

I am a local minority businesswoman who took ABC Security Service to the next level in an industry dominated by men. Furthermore, since I took over the company, I have been working hard to earn and keep contracts by providing the best possible quality service. This is my merit, and it has been validated by countless local and statewide recognitions and awards.

After losing a bid for a contract with the City of Oakland, we have been working diligently with the new service provider to support our workforce and ensure a smooth transition for all parties involved.

For Mr. Gammon to say that I am a poster child to cronyism is to quite frankly insult me by disregarding my many years of hard work and my proven ability as a business person. If he wants to talk about cronyism he should investigate many businesses contracted by governmental entities. However, he looks aside when people he likes are part of those dealings.

When he refers to our services as "mediocre" he is insulting our workforce, immigrants and people of color. All of them are hardworking, amicable, responsible security guards. During our contract with the City of Oakland, we did not receive complaints against their performance. Like in any relationship between client and service provider, we had meetings periodically where our client made recommendations as to how they would like things to be done. But to our knowledge, they were satisfied with our services.

Mr. Gammon refers to me as one of the most generous donors to politicians. Again, he did not investigate enough. Business people as well as any person respond to political candidates' requests for donations to their campaigns. I do not consider myself as the most generous political donor. Perhaps it would be more accurate to say that I have been very generous with a wide range of nonprofit organizations that support women, minorities, small businesses, and other causes beneficial to the well-being of our society. In fact, I am a board member for a few nonprofits and have been a long-term advocate for many organizations.

It is obvious to me and to many others that Mr. Gammon disregards the fact that there is always more than one side to a story. He also seems to ignore the fact that anybody who calls himself a journalist has an obligation to be fair to those implicated in his writings.

I cannot ignore the fact that Mr. Gammon has a history of attacking successful Latinos, and I wonder if his malicious writings against myself, my company, and my employees may be due to an underlying anti-immigrant sentiment.

Ana Chretien
CEO, ABC Security Service Inc.
Oakland

Platitude Days

Rachel Swan, who are you? I'm sorry the day you listened to *Luvplanet* was not an aesthetic day for you. Seems like you are full of platitudes, dear. Variation in music is known to people who can hear them. Nicole's voice is her own unique sound and goes very well with Mark's ("skronking" — whatever that means, it is not in the English dictionary) guitar. You may want to get a better sound system to listen to the CDs you are judging. You will hear how great Scott and Tomasz are. Only then you will know how fantastic the band Luvplanet truly is.

Roberta Bingham-Patterson, Calif.

Check Your Hearing

After reading your review it's obvious to me as to what transpired. You may have been listening to *Luvplanet* but you certainly didn't actually hear Luvplanet's music. Those of us who can "hear" Luvplanet find ourselves truly blessed to be able to comprehend their incredible lyrics and songwriting skills. This band is awesome. Luvplanet is the best original rock band in the Bay Area.

Steven Becchi, Novato

The Kids Love It

Wow, you've really misinterpreting Luvplanet there, Rachel. This band is true to themselves, playing euphonious music from their heart to our ears and heart. The music is their motivation as well as their message of goodness. This band spreads good energy and if you give them a chance by listening with repetition, you will find it is uplifting music. I myself have been playing it in my shuttle bus in NYC for college kids and they all have grown to like it a lot. Luvplanet is a jewel in the ruff. They will grow in popularity with or without your approval.

Gerry Zaccaro, Mahwah, NJ

The Year for Civil Discourse

Incivility in the Jewish community mirrors incivility in the larger society: our community is not unique in facing disagreement on issues about which we feel passionate. As a people, the Jewish community has thrived on its ability to engage in healthy dialogue and debate, to wrestle with issues of vital importance. With this in mind, the Jewish Community Relations Council, our Jewish Federations, and Board of Rabbis dedicated this as the Year of Civil Discourse (YCD). This initiative aims to elevate the level of discourse and facilitate respectful and informed conversations about Israel and other issues. The project trains community members in participating in challenging conversations, engaging in constructive listening and modeling civility during controversy. YCD seeks to build trust and inclusivity among those with divergent views, to foster a culture that advances common interests and a community where vibrant, engaged, and respectful discussions about Israel and other wedge issues are the norm. With this project six months in progress, we've already begun to witness the positive outcome when moderate voices are amplified and a community rehearses skills in dialogue and consensus building. We are very hopeful this initiative will further strengthen our community this year and beyond. To learn more about the Year of Civil Discourse, you are welcome to check JCRC.org.

Myrna David
JCRC East Bay Regional Director
Oakland

Corrections

In our 4/27 Culture Spy, we misspelled the name of news anchor Marcus Sams and director Colin Murray. Also, Murray and host Dan Sullivan are not neighbors. Also, we neglected to mention that Sam Jack is the executive producer of *The Variety Society*. Both Murray and Jack are also co-owners of Viral Media Network.

In our 4/27 Eco Watch, "The Slow Death of Mushrooms," we incorrectly stated that San Leandro resident Norm Andresen leads mushroom hunting forays with the Bay Area Mycological Society. While Andresen is a foray leader, he actually works with the Mycological Society of San Francisco. ●

Letters Policy

Please provide your full name, address, and daytime phone number, although we will only print your name, city, and affiliation. Send submissions to Letters@EastBayExpress.com or Letters, *East Bay Express*, 620 3rd St., Oakland, CA 94607. Letters are edited for length and clarity.

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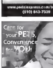
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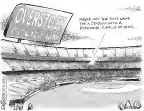
SEVEN DAYS

OBAMA GETS BIN LADEN AND TRUMP

The Democratic president takes down the world's top terrorist and the GOP's leading presidential candidate

By Robert Gammon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DeFREITAS

Republicans and the mainstream media have traditionally portrayed Democrats as being soft on defense. But over the weekend, President **Barack Obama** went a long way to finally putting an end to that myth. On Friday, the president green-lighted a secret operation to hunt down terrorist leader **Osama bin Laden** deep inside Pakistan, and by Sunday, US special forces units had killed the architect of the 9/11 attacks.

In finally getting bin Laden, Obama made good on a campaign promise, while accomplishing what Republican President **George W. Bush** had failed to do during his seven-plus years in office after 3,000 Americans had died. Indeed, Obama's actions made it clear that he had refocused the intelligence community's priorities in the past two years toward getting bin Laden and breaking up **al Qaeda** — after Bush had led the country astray with his unnecessary war in Iraq.

Simultaneously, Obama also masterfully took down the GOP's leading presidential candidate, **Donald Trump**. Last week, the president convinced the state of Hawaii to waive its rules and finally release his so-called long-form birth certificate to put an end to blatantly false rumors by Trump and so-called birthers that he wasn't born in the United States.

Even though the disclosure of the certificate plainly revealed Trump's shallow intellect and craven need for attention, the reality **TV** star nevertheless claimed credit for forcing Obama to release the document. So, then on Saturday night, Obama decided to finally put Trump in his place. At the **White House Correspondents Association** dinner in Washington DC, Obama roasted the New York real estate mogul and his frivolous show, *Celebrity Apprentice*, noting how Trump had decided in one episode to solve the thorny issue of steaks not being cooked correctly: "You fired **Gary Busey**," the president mused. "These are the kinds of problems that would keep me up at night."

The audience roared with laughter as Trump sat stone-faced, visibly unhappy at the public take-down. But Trump and the rest of the country wouldn't find out until Sunday night, when Obama announced the death of bin Laden on national TV, just how biting the joke was. While the Democratic president was focused on getting a mass murdering terrorist that had eluded capture for more than a decade, the leading GOP presidential candidate was stressing over whether to "fire" washed-up actors.

Yoo Reveals True Colors

Meanwhile, a notorious East Bay Republican revealed again last week that he is little more than a partisan huckster. Throughout much of the past decade, **UC Berkeley** law school professor **John Yoo** staked his academic and legal reputation on the argument that the US Constitution calls for a powerful presidency. But in a *Wall Street Journal* op-ed published last week, Yoo revealed that he only believes in unfettered presidential power when a Republican occupies the White House.

Yoo became infamous while on sabbatical from Cal, working as a lawyer in the **Bush Justice Department**. In a 2002 legal memo, Yoo even went so far as to claim that the Constitution gave the president the power to ignore US and international law and order suspected terrorists to be tortured. In fact, Bush pointed to Yoo's so-called torture memo as justification for ordering the harsh and abusive treatment of prisoners.

Ultimately, however, an embarrassed Bush Justice Department distanced itself from Yoo, rescinded his memos, and investigated him for professional misconduct because his ideas were so extreme. In the end, however, the Obama administration decided that Yoo should not be formally sanctioned or disbarred based on the premise that he could not have known how absurd his legal opinions were because he believed so strongly in them. Yoo, however, has now made a mockery of that decision.

In his op-ed, the tenured Cal professor wrote, apparently with a straight face, that President Obama was on the cusp of overstepping his presidential authority because he's contemplating an executive order that would force government contractors to disclose their campaign contributions. Yes, you read that right: Republican presidents can torture, but Democratic ones can't require transparency from contractors who get taxpayer money.

This is not the first time, however, that Yoo has displayed his true partisan colors. During the 1990s, he argued that President **Bill Clinton** had overstepped his presidential authority, too, even though Clinton came nowhere near to ignoring US and international law as Bush did when he authorized the torture of Guantanamo Bay detainees.

So will UC Berkeley finally do anything about a professor who essentially abandons his legal opinions, and effectively refutes his own work? Don't count on it.

Quan Unveils Budget Scenarios

In Oakland, Mayor **Jean Quan** unveiled three budget scenarios to close the city's $58 million budget gap. The mayor clearly supports the third scenario, which assumes that public-employee unions will make substantial concessions and that city voters will approve an $11 million-a-year parcel tax. That scenario also would result in the fewest layoffs and service cuts. The first scenario, by contrast, is an all-cuts budget that assumes public-employee unions will refuse to make concessions and that the parcel tax will lose. It would result in the layoff of 368 city employees and would require the closure of some fire stations and city library branches. The second scenario, which assumes employee concessions but no parcel tax, would result in the layoff of 145 city workers.

Three-Dot Roundup

UC Berkeley Chancellor **Robert Birgeneau** reinstated men's gymnastics after alumni raised $2.5 million to save the program, the *Oakland Tribune* reported. The move means that Cal is not eliminating any collegiate sports. … Oakland City Attorney **John Russo** accepted an offer to become Alameda's city manager and was expected to make an official announcement this week, the *Alameda Journal* reported. … Oakland City Councilwoman **Jane Brunner** temporarily tabled her plan to gut the city's lobbying law and will consult with the local **League of Women Voters**, which advocates for greater governmental transparency. … The **Oakland-Alameda County Coliseum** will be renamed **Overstock.com Coliseum** after the giant online retailer agreed to pay the Coliseum Authority $1.2 million a year for naming rights. … And the White House anonymously threatened to ban veteran *San Francisco Chronicle* reporter **Carla Marinucci** for video-recording protestors at an Obama fundraiser without authorization. ●

Seven Days is culled from our news blog, 92510.

Robert.Gammon@EastBayExpress.com

LEGALIZATION NATION

POT DOCS FOMENTING BACKLASH

Has the time come for medical marijuana physicians to clamp down on their own kind?

By David Downs

The bereaved parents of **Matthew Hurlbutt**, a Cal Poly San Luis Obispo student hit and killed by a car in October are suing everyone — and that includes the physician who gave Hurlbutt a medical marijuana recommendation. "The lawsuit doesn't mention that in addition to marijuana Hurlbutt had a high level of alcohol as well as cocaine in his system when he was struck, according to a CHP investigation," reports *The San Luis Obispo Tribune*.

Former colleagues of Hurlbutt's physician, **Dr. Atsuko Rees**, allege that she held "Marijuana Fridays" at her San Luis Obispo clinic. Rees did not return phone calls seeking comment. But even if she provided a high quality of care to Hurlbutt, the number of shady pot doctors in California has flourished in the last couple of years, said **Dr. David Bearman**, a Santa Barbara physician and co-director of the **American Academy of Cannabinoid Medicine**.

After a thirty-year career on the Central Coast, Bearman is now a semi-retired pain management specialist who sees medical cannabis patients. Bearman also has testified in more than four hundred trials as an expert on medical marijuana.

Lax medical standards do a disservice to needy patients, undermine support for medical marijuana, and could cause a backlash, he said. This month, legislators in Montana sharply curtailed patient access amid just such a backlash. Colorado's attorney general has questioned the legitimacy of that state's 135,000 patients. "They need to be reigned in," Bearman said of shady pot docs. "By making a mockery of the medical use of marijuana it makes it more difficult for the tens of thousands of people who benefit from it."

When California voters approved of **Prop 215** in 1996, doctors' guidelines were not specified. The public agency responsible for regulating doctors is the **California Medical Board**. But Bearman said the medical board's initial reaction to the onset of medical marijuana in California was one of intimidation. The board launched investigations of the first doctors to recommend the drug and it had a chilling effect.

"When it comes to medical marijuana, they have made a mess of it; they have discouraged your average doctor from making medical marijuana recommendations," he said. "The medical board does a halfway decent job if they're looking for somebody who is incapacitated — if a doctor is drunk or had a stroke. When it comes to quality of care, they fall down."

Today, few mainstream docs will risk the scrutiny of the medical board, leaving the field of medical marijuana to those willing to risk their license, Bearman said.

The medical board did not respond to phone calls for this story, but in 2010 **Candis Cohen**, then spokeswoman for the board, said it usually only investigates doctors in response to complaints, and generally very few patients complain about getting a cannabis recommendation. There may be 250,000 medical cannabis patients in California, industry experts estimate. Patients are not required to register with the state.

Bearman is suggesting a new law that would limit physicians who can recommend cannabis to a patient's primary care provider or a specialist or a doctor certified by **American Academy of Cannabinoid Physicians**. The two-year-old group has about fifty members and is currently raising funds to grow its ranks, educate doctors, and lobby public officials.

If pot docs don't want to join the academy, there is still precedent for establishing special institutes and accreditations in medicine, and it should be followed, Bearman said. For example, California doctors must take an eight-hour class to prescribe Suboxone for opiate dependence, or twelve hours training for pain management and end-of-life care. Similar classes are being mandated for Washington DC's medical marijuana program.

"There's a lot of good science and good studies out there," Bearman said, but mainstream doctors don't know anything about cannabis even though the endocannabinoid system is the largest signaling system in the brain.

Bearman said California will see more stories of wrongful death suits like the Hurlbutt case, and that the time has come for the nascent industry to self-regulate or face new reprisals.

Seeds and Stems

Leading anti-marijuana Republican lawmaker from Rhode Island, **Robert Watson**, told the *Boston Herald* that police targeted him because he is a politician during an April DUI bust that included pot possession charges. But according to the *Herald*, "a police report on Friday's traffic stop said Watson smelled of alcohol and marijuana and performed poorly on sobriety tests. An officer found a bag of suspected marijuana and a wooden pipe in Watson's pocket."

Of course, just this February the prohibitionist pol dissed Rhode Island's legislature for its liberalness. Watson told a Greater Providence Chamber of Commerce group that the legislature's priorities are correct if "you're a Guatemalan gay man who likes to gamble and smokes marijuana." Despite the obvious embarrassment, the Rhode Island GOP caucus said they still support Watson.

High Times Medical Marijuana Cup returns for year two to San Francisco, the magazine announced last week. And same as last year, guests will not get pot with admission to the ***High Times* 2011 Medical Cannabis Cup** held June 25 and 26. *High Times* medical marijuana magazine West Coast editor **David Bienenstock** said the event has been upgraded to the San Francisco Concourse and ticketing should be easier this year. VIP tickets are $100 (!), two-day general admission is $30. ●

David.Downs@gmail.com

This column is culled from our blog of the same name.

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Petaluma Farms doesn't let its chickens roam freely outdoors

Cornucopia Institute

ECO WATCH

ORGANIC CO-OP CUTS STANDARDS

Organic Valley, a trailblazer for small sustainable farms, has an exclusive deal with a California factory-farm egg producer that doesn't let its chickens roam freely outdoors.

By Robert Gammon

For the past decade **Organic Valley** cooperative has played a major role in the rebirth of small sustainable dairy farms, particularly in Northern California. By purchasing organic milk produced from cows that spend their days grazing on grass pastureland, rather than in feedlots eating corn, Organic Valley has provided a guaranteed market that small farmers need to flourish. But now the co-op is under fire because it has lowered its standards for California eggs. Instead of working with small farmers whose hens graze on pastureland, too, Organic Valley has an exclusive deal with a large factory farm-like egg producer in Petaluma whose chickens are not allowed to roam free.

"It's hypocritical," said **Mark Kastel** of the **Cornucopia Institute**, a leading environmental and consumer watchdog for the organic foods industry. Over the years, the Wisconsin-based Cornucopia Institute and other environmentalists have praised Organic Valley for its work in promoting small, sustainable dairy farms. And they contend that the co-op should be doing the same with egg farmers in California. Instead, Kastel said, "Organic Valley is giving large corporate agribusiness an ever bigger competitive advantage."

Throughout most of the country, Organic Valley, which is also Wisconsin based, purchases organic eggs from farms whose animals graze on pastureland — much as it does with cows. In fact, Organic Valley's requirements for egg farms exceed those from the **National Organic Program Standards**. The cooperative, for example, mandates that its farmers provide hens with at least five square feet of space outdoors. This requirement ensures that hens won't be penned up in henhouses all day.

But in California, Organic Valley has eliminated this requirement, and purchases organic eggs from **Petaluma Farms**, an industrial-size operation that only provides screened "sun porches" for its chickens. As a result, the chickens spend their lives packed inside row-houses. Each hen eats organic feed, but does not live the normal life of a chicken.

Petaluma Farms sells organic eggs under the brand name **Judy's Family Farm Organic Eggs**. Owned by **Steve and Judy Mahrt**, Petaluma Farms is adept at marketing. Judy's Family Farm is family-owned and the eggs are organic under the relatively weak US national standards, but the chickens do not roam free outdoors as the brand name seems to suggest. Petaluma Farms also sells eggs under brand names **Uncle Eddie's Cage Free Eggs**, **Rock Island Eggs** and **Gold Circle Eggs**.

Petaluma Farms also supplies eggs for supermarket private labels. Records show, for example, that **Berkeley Bowl**'s private label eggs come from Petaluma Farms. All Organic Valley eggs sold in California also come from the company's row houses.

The Mahrts and Petaluma Farms also have fought against efforts to improve the lives of chickens and other farm animals. Steve Mahrt, for example, lent his name and was one of the first donors to the campaign to defeat **Proposition 2** in 2008. Prop 2, also known as the **Prevention of Farm Cruelty Act**, sought to provide farm animals with more living space. Many farm animals in California are confined to tight quarters, standing shoulder-to-shoulder in their own excrement. Yet despite the efforts of the state's largest agribusinesses, voters overwhelmingly approved Prop 2.

Last fall, Cornucopia Institute also strongly criticized Petaluma Farms in its report on the organic egg industry, "Scrambled Eggs." The organization gave Judy's Family Farm Organic Eggs its lowest rating on its "Egg Scorecard," after Petaluma Farms refused to participate in the study. Cornucopia Institute also has produced scorecards for organic milk and soy.

The organization, along with other environmentalists, refers to Petaluma Farms and other factory farm producers as "industrial organic," and contend that they're undermining the true intent of the organic label. Judy's Family Farm eggs are supposedly organic because the hens eat organic feed, do not receive antibiotics or growth hormones, and purportedly have "access" to the outdoors. But Cornucopia Institute contends that Judy's should not be certified as organic because the company's mesh-screened "sun porches" don't allow the hens to actually go outside. In a complaint filed last month with the **US Department of Agriculture** against Organic Valley, the Cornucopia Institute argued that Petaluma Farms' sun porches don't meet the national standard for organic chickens.

Steve Mahrt of Petaluma Farms did not return a phone call seeking comment. But on its web site, the company contends that it can't let its hens range freely outdoors because of health concerns. The company says that the **California Department of Agriculture** and state veterinarians "strongly advocate" that chickens don't range freely because of the risk of avian flu transmission. Organic Valley cites the same reason on its web site for why it has gutted its free-range standards in California.

But some researchers say grazing chickens on grass pastureland doesn't raise the risk of avian flu. The Cornucopia Institute noted that **David Swayne**, a leading researcher for the USDA, has reported that "there has never been a recorded emergence of highly pathogenic avian influenza virus in any backyard flock or free-range poultry operation." By contrast, the risk of pathogenic infections may increase in high-density factory farms.

In an interview, **George Siemon**, Organic Valley's CEO, did not mention concerns about avian flu for why the co-op has contracted with Petaluma Farms. Instead, Siemon said Organic Valley couldn't find small organic farmers to meet its needs in the state. Siemon also praised Petaluma Farms, saying that even though Organic Valley believes chickens should roam freely, the company still runs a good, clean operation. "This was a tough decision," he said of the co-op's exclusive deal with the Mahrts.

But then when asked why Organic Valley doesn't buy from small farms that Cornucopia Institute identified in its report, Siemon offered what appeared to be the real reason for the co-op's decision — price. The CEO said that eggs produced by small California farmers whose chickens graze on pasture are too costly. "They're very, very expensive," he said.

How expensive? Organic Valley eggs sold for $4.79 a dozen last week at Berkeley Bowl, while eggs from hens that graze on pasture ranged between $7.29 and $8.29. Interestingly, Judy's Family Farm Organic Eggs sold for less ($4.25) than Organic Valley, even though they come from the same farm.

The controversy over Organic Valley's deal with Petaluma Farms also comes at a time when some small farms are making marketplace inroads. Late last week, for example, Berkeley Bowl began selling **Alexandre Kids Organic Eggs**, which come from hens grazing on pasture near Crescent City. In an interview, **Blake and Stephanie Alexandre** said their farm currently has nearly 6,000 egg-laying hens. The farm also sells eggs at **Whole Foods** stores.

The Alexandres patterned their dairy and egg farm after Mennonite farms in Pennsylvania and **Polyface Farm** in Virginia, a sustainable, organic farm profiled in UC Berkeley professor **Michael Pollan**'s *Omnivore's Dilemma*. Like Polyface Farm, the Alexandres move their chickens around their pasture in portable henhouses. The birds sleep in the henhouses at night to protect them from predators and then graze in the pasture during the day, where they're protected by guard dogs.

When outdoors, the chickens also eat insects and small animals — they're omnivores, Stephanie Alexandre noted. "I laugh when I see 'vegetarian fed organic eggs,'" she added. In short, the Alexandres' chickens live like chickens. Cornucopia Institute gives the Alexandres its highest rating — five eggs. The dark brown eggs they produce with deep-orange yolks also taste heartier and are more filling than other eggs (Bee Watch tried his first dozen last weekend). "It feels great to be doing it," Stephanie said of their sustainable farming practices, "and to be producing a product that's superior."

The Alexandres also emphasized that they have great respect for Organic Valley and have no interest in entering the egg dispute. In fact, they're a dairy supplier for Organic Valley in Northern California. If you buy Organic Valley milk in the Bay Area, there's a good chance it comes from their farm. They also supply organic milk for Whole Foods' private label 365.

Siemon said he has much admiration for the Alexandres, calling them "a very, very good producer." But again, he cited price as the reason why his company doesn't buy eggs from them. Alexandre eggs retail for $7.29 a carton.

Stephanie Alexandre said it costs more to produce eggs on pasture, dealing with breakage and predators. As for avian flu, she said state inspectors test their hens for infection each month and they've had no problems.

Kastel argues that the price of Alexandre eggs and that of other small California farms would drop if Organic Valley bought them and provided a stable market — as it does with milk. Kastel also hopes that Organic Valley farmers in other states who are grazing their hens on pasture will ultimately pressure the co-op to sever its ties with Petaluma Farms. ●

Robert.Gammon@EastBayExpress.com

Alexandre farm chickens graze on pasture near Crescent City.

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Custom Alloy Scrap Sales processes scrap metal at its West Oakland facility. Stephen Loewinsohn

THE RECYCLER RELOCATION PROJECT

In West Oakland, sometimes recycling isn't so green

By Scott Morris

West Oakland has long been plagued by air pollution. Now a concerned group of residents and environmental organizations may be close to realizing a plan that they believe will help improve air quality, stimulate new economic development in a largely stagnant neighborhood, and invigorate the city through new green industry facilities. Their proposal is to move two recycling companies from densely populated West Oakland neighborhoods to a new shared location at the old **Oakland Army Base**.

West Oakland Neighbors and the El Cerrito-based **Global Community Monitor** want to relocate one of the recyclers, **Custom Alloy Scrap Sales**, because of community concerns about heavy metals and other toxics emanating from on-site smelting operations. Unlike most Oakland recycling companies, Custom Alloy Scrap Sales processes scrap metal at its facility, rather than shipping it elsewhere.

The coalition of residents and environmentalists have collected more than five hundred signatures from the West Oakland community in favor of relocating the company, said **Jessica Hendricks**, program coordinator for Global Community Monitor. The coalition, which includes **West Oakland Air Monitors** and the **West Oakland Environmental Indicators Project**, along with other community and environmental organizations, also plans to broaden its outreach. "We've been pretty West Oakland-specific but this is an Oakland-wide decision, so we want to expand the issue to the larger community," Hendricks said.

The city has been receptive to relocating the recycler and has set aside a portion of the army base known as the North Gateway, just north of West Grand Avenue between the I-80 and I-880. The campaign also has received support from West Oakland Councilwoman **Nancy Nadel** and, more recently, from At-Large Councilwoman **Rebecca Kaplan**. The city is expecting a joint proposal from Custom Alloy Scrap Sales and another West Oakland recycler, **California Waste Solutions**, which would share the North Gateway area under the current plan, according to Oakland Redevelopment Area Manager **Al Auletta**.

Treva Reid, spokeswoman for California Waste Solutions, said her company is working with Custom Alloy Scrap Sales on a proposal, which they hope to deliver to the city this year. "We've been partnering for some time," she said. "The community has been strong advocates, and both of our firms are committed."

Reid said California Waste Solutions wants to move because of community concerns about pollution from truck traffic, and because the company wants to build a new state-of-the-art facility on the army base that would better serve their customers and create new jobs. Custom Alloy Scrap Sales officials declined to be interviewed for this story.

The relocation campaign began in 2007 when Global Community Monitor assisted a group of students at **McClymonds High School** to monitor the air quality around their neighborhood because of concerns about bad odors. They followed their noses from the school and eventually arrived at Custom Alloy Scrap Sales, where they believed the smells originated. "We saw some black smoke coming out of the stack," said **Denny Larson**, executive director of Global Community Monitor. "We smelled some weird odors, saw some strange dust in the neighborhood around the area, collecting on surfaces, and saw some green-looking water dripping off pipes."

They collected dust from a windowsill at McClymonds, analyzed it, and found that there was metal collecting on it. Global Community Monitor officials then decided to conduct more sophisticated tests on days that the recycler was operating, and to collect samples downwind from the facility. They found several metals in the air, predominantly aluminum, but also nickel, cadmium, arsenic, magnesium, and lead, which they suspected were coming from the smelting operations.

Global Community Monitor then filed suit in October 2009 against Custom Alloy Scrap Sales for pollution from water runoff coming from the site. The suit was rapidly settled when the recycler agreed to spend $500,000 complying with regulations for storm water runoff, as well as making other upgrades to their facilities.

Global Community Monitor's work also caught the attention of the West Oakland Neighbors and other community members who formed the West Oakland Air Monitors. They then asked the **Bay Area Air Quality Management District** to take action against the recycler and began exploring the idea of relocating it to a more suitable spot.

Although an air district report released in January of this year concluded that there was no significant pollution coming from the smelting operations, the agency supported reasonable buffers between residential areas and heavy industry, and backed the idea of the recycler moving to the army base. The air district is also drafting new regulations for metal recyclers.

"I think CASS was being extra vigilant about their processing," said **Linda McFadden**, an activist with West Oakland Neighbors and West Oakland Air Monitors, referring to why the air district report found that the smelting operations were not polluting the neighborhood. Other community members also said they believe that extra scrutiny prompted the recycler to make the appropriate upgrades to their facility in time for the air district study.

The coalition also said the recycler was receptive to moving to the army base, and recognized an opportunity to manage community concerns about pollution and expand their own operations with a larger new facility. "I feel that **Edward** [**Kangeter**], the CEO of CASS, has spent a lot of time talking to the community," McFadden said. "They really want to upgrade their operations, but they don't want to spend the money to upgrade their operations if the community is going to be giving them a hard time."

The army base, however, has been notoriously difficult to develop, and has had numerous projects fall through since the city acquired the property in 2003. In January 2010, Oakland entered an exclusive negotiating agreement with developer **Phil Tagami**, whose **California Capital Group** has been responsible for renovations to the downtown Oakland Rotunda Building and the Fox Theater. Tagami's plan is to develop the army base with an emphasis on industry and infrastructure, and he is currently working on a master plan for infrastructure development.

Tagami estimates that the army base will need $525 million of demolition, hazardous cleanup, and improvements to electrical, sewer and water- and storm runoff systems before any vertical construction could occur. His plan is currently undergoing the necessary environmental review and the city hopes to begin demolition and cleanup within the next year or two. The soonest that work could begin on a new facility for the recyclers could be anywhere from four to six years. "We definitely think the recyclers are an appropriate use for the future of the army base," Tagami said. "How many, what their size requirements are, are issues that we still need to work out."

Ray Kidd, a member of West Oakland Neighbors, said that the community's next major challenge will be to ensure that the land vacated by the two recyclers will no longer be put to industrial use. There are also concerns that the property itself may be polluted from forty years of industrial activity. At a West Oakland Economic Development Working Group meeting on April 21, **Margot Prado**, a senior development specialist for the city, said she had offered Custom Alloy Scrap Sales funding for an environmental assessment, but was turned down.

Kidd said that he believes such a study should be done before the recycler moves to the base. "We need to get some kind of assessment before these deals are complete," he said. ◆

Editor@EastBayExpress.com

Student leader Ashley Webster thinks more should be done for students at risk. Leith Scherr

REACTING TO GUNS AT BERKELEY HIGH

Some students and progressives warn that a campus lockdown, more cops and visible student IDs may backfire

By Judith Scherr

Between January 10 and March 25, students brought four guns onto the **Berkeley High School** campus. An Oakland Technical High School student also had a gun on the perimeter of the campus and a student was found with a gun at **B-Tech**, Berkeley's continuation school. In response, some community members have demanded more stringent controls: from locking down the fourteen-acre 3,300-student campus to installing metal detectors, requiring visible student IDs, and ratcheting up police presence.

But others in this famously progressive community, including student leaders, are concerned about overreacting. They're calling for modest security enhancements while emphasizing the need to provide help for students at risk for academic and social failure. "If you look at a disease in the body, it's very rare that it's the disease that harms the person; it's the immune system's response to it," school board student representative **Lisa Djill** cautioned. "Our overreaction can end up hurting more than it helps."

Student leader **Ashley Webster**, a member of a newly formed district-wide safety committee, criticized the adults who reacted as if students brought weapons on campus with the intent to kill. "It's not a Columbine incident," she said. "We have to remember that these students are members of our Berkeley High community. If they feel unsafe, there is a reason why they feel unsafe. And it's our job at the school to make them feel safe when they come here. And give them opportunities — not just to throw these kids in jail."

Part of the blame should be laid at the school district door, said **Michael Smith**, pastor of South Berkeley's **McGee Avenue Baptist Church** and recreation director at the city-run **Young Adult Project**. "Much of the faculty at Berkeley High and much of the school board has never wanted to see the school as an urban high school," he said. "They wanted to see it as kind of a suburban high school in an urban area."

Smith argues that the that the school needs to take an honest look at itself and focus on prevention. That may mean providing "wraparound" services for young people identified as being at risk. It's no secret who these young people are — they're known through the probation and police departments and the school, he said. Smith doesn't see identifying kids in need as profiling, but as a way to direct intervention. "You've got to have somebody engaged in a level of case management that follows the kid and to some degree the parent," Smith said. "It's costly: that's part of the problem."

But the cost of prevention is less than the $248,000 annual price-tag for locking up a teen at the **California Youth Authority**, or a $250,000-five-day hospital stay from a gunshot wound, said **DeVone Boggan**, a nationally recognized expert in anti-violence programs and the head of Richmond's Office of Neighborhood Safety. Boggan created a Richmond program that serves men identified by police, the probation department, and the FBI as the most likely in the city to kill and be killed. The program, funded by the city and grants, provides intense case management so that, for example, a case worker not only tells participants where they can get job training, but takes them there. But it's not just about services. It's creating relationships. "These men are dying, literally, for a relationship," Boggan said.

Youth "don't want to have to carry guns to school," he continued, addressing the Berkeley schools issue. "They're tired. They're worn out. They want peace. They just don't know how to get it and don't know who to ask to help them to get it." The school can intervene, he added, "by looking more closely at who the kids that are most likely bringing guns to school are ... and developing relationships with these young people, and helping them to feel like they're more protected."

Irma Parker, parent liaison at Berkeley High, has been trying to get grants for mentoring programs that would create healthy relationships between troubled students and adults. Speaking for herself and not as a school employee, Parker said Berkeley High's priorities are geared toward college-bound students. They get special tutoring, for example, while there is little for those who are at risk of getting in trouble. These students need to learn something about their self worth, she said; they need someone "to teach them about their God-given potential."

Webster, who's headed to New York University next year, also thinks more should be done for students at risk. She said they often feel alienated at Berkeley High. "Kids all need a place to feel happy and excited ... [that] their lives are worth living," she said.

So far, the school district has made incremental security improvements on campus while looking at long-range solutions. It has changed safety officer assignments so that out-of-the-way areas can be more frequently observed, and has hired additional security staff and scheduled enhanced training. The police officer stationed at Berkeley High is now there five days a week, and the school has instituted an anonymous tip line at 1-866-SPEAKUP and contracted with Napa-based **Edu-Safe Associates** to do a security assessment.

In a memo to the school superintendent, Berkeley Police Chief **Michael Meehan** said he would like to see tougher measures. His recommendations include locking down the campus at lunch for younger students and eventually for all students during the school day, and better training and greater visibility for security staff who "should be equipped in a manner that allows them to maintain control of situations, particularly those where dangerous weapons may be involved ... [and minimally] trained and equipped with either handcuffs or plastic flexcuffs." The police chief would like to see five-day-a-week coverage of police officers at the high schools and middle schools and recommends requiring students to wear visible identification in both middle and high school.

Webster, however, called the idea of a completely closed campus and mandatory ID badges "ridiculous" and contrary to the openness that is the hallmark of Berkeley High. However, she said she would like to see a locked-down campus during school hours, with an open campus at lunchtime. And Parker said locking down the campus would backfire. "It would create a false sense of security," she said.

Smith argued that real solutions will come only when the district changes. "You can talk about metal detectors all day; you can talk about everyone having uniforms and ID badges — there are arguments on both sides — but I believe that systemic change does not occur until you stop treating symptoms and start treating the root causes of the disease," he said.

School Services Director **Susan Craig** has interviewed the young people allegedly involved in the gun incidents. While she said she's unable to disclose the content of the interviews for reasons of confidentiality, she said she will compile information from these interviews, from student focus groups held on campus, and from experts to arrive at long-term solutions. "ID badges and more police officers don't solve the underlying problem," she said.

On the job for less than a year, Principal **Pasquale Scuderi** is navigating the prickly path between prevention and security, between fearful parents who want Berkeley High locked down and students who demand their freedom. "You want to create an environment that is safe and as secure as possible," he said. "But you also want to consider school culture and school climate and not necessarily turn your campus into San Quentin or Pelican Bay because a few people made some horrible decisions." ■

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Pianist Julian Waterfall Pollack is one of many Berkeley High alums who decided to move to New York to make it.

Sara Kasung

Kind of Blue

Will the Bay Areas jazz scene ever live up to its ambitions?

By Rachel Swan

By all accounts, **Ambrose Akinmusire** appeared poised to become a star. The Oakland-raised jazz trumpeter came up in the **Berkeley High Jazz Ensemble** at a time when the public school was known for its art school-level music program. Led by director **Charles Hamilton**, the ensemble was famous for arriving to band competitions in sloppy gear — baggy jeans and Bob Marley T-shirts — when everyone else wore tuxes, and trouncing all the other schools. It was at Berkeley High where Akinmusire's playing caught the ear of saxophonist Steve Coleman, who helped launch his career.

But to make it big, Akinmusire had to move to New York. He relocated there in 2000 to attend the **Manhattan School of Music**, and after completing a master's program at the **Thelonious Monk Institute of Jazz** in Los Angeles, resettled there again. After four years of living on the East Coast, Akinmusire's efforts paid off: In 2009, **Bruce Lundvall**, the head of **Blue Note Records**, sent him an e-mail with a cryptic message: "We need to figure out how to sign you to Blue Note." Within eight months, they cemented a deal. Akinmusire's Blue Note debut drops this month.

That makes him one of the most successful prodigies to ever emerge from Berkeley High School, or for that matter, from the Bay Area at large. It also places Akinmusire in a long lineage of locally produced jazz musicians who feel they have to move to the Big Apple to find success.

"It's the mecca," said **SFJAZZ** spokesperson **Marshall Lamm** about New York's appeal. "It's where you gotta go, and play all night, and woodshed, and struggle. There are a lot more jam sessions. There are a lot of opportunities to play with people from all around the world."

New York may have the reputation of being a jazz city, but the Bay Area is notable for producing talent, most notably from Berkeley High. Over the four decades that **Phil Hardymon** and his successor Charles Hamilton led the Berkeley High Jazz Ensemble, it produced such talents as **Peter Apfelbaum, Benny Green, Charlie Hunter, Dave Ellis, Julian Waterfall Pollack**, and the old standard-bearer **Joshua Redman**. Many of them are now nationally known. Lamm said that any star coming out of that band will have the whole Berkeley High imprimatur attached to his name. "If you were the first-chair tenor player at Berkeley High, then you're the rookie everyone's looking at," he said.

The Bay Area is also home to a world-famous jazz club. Originally founded in Berkeley in 1973 and later relocated to Oakland, **Yoshi's** became a destination for jazz, bringing such names as **Max Roach**, **Dizzy Gillespie**, and **Branford Marsalis** to its stage. Then in 2007, it opened a sister location in San Francisco with the aim of reviving jazz in the city's Fillmore district.

And yet, the Bay Area's jazz scene seems to never be able to live up to its ambitions.

After receiving roughly $7.2 million in financial bailouts from the **San Francisco Redevelopment Agency**, Yoshi's has been forced to shift its focus to more profitable genres — namely, old soul, rock, and hip-hop — to pay for its $15 million construction bill. And that's just one decline to fall on the Bay Area's jazz scene struggles to sustain itself. In 2008, three other Fillmore jazz clubs — **1300 on Fillmore**, **Rasselas**, and **Sheba Lounge** — also sought bailouts from San Francisco. Two years ago, **Coda** was supposed to be a bright hope, but owner **Bruce Hanson** said the business model was untenable in a bad economy. The venue shuttered at the end of 2010, and its replacement, **Brick and Mortar**, has a more world- and funk-oriented lineup. **Jazz at Pearl's** closed in 2008, and another North Beach jazz club, **Enrico's**, closed about three months ago. **Bruno's**, the Mission District venue which used to be known for booking a lot of live jazz, switched to a more cost-effective all-DJ lineup. And in Berkeley, **Anna's Jazz Island** closed last year, and **Randy Moore** had to end his jam session at **Nick's Lounge** after the bar was sold.

And yet, we're also perennially on the cusp of creating a jazz renaissance. Two more big venues are slated to open. SFJAZZ will unveil a palatial $16 million center (all privately funded) in the fall of 2012, right at Hayes and Fell streets in San Francisco. Meanwhile, the historic **Preservation Hall** of New Orleans plans to open a new offshoot on 19th and Valencia streets, hopefully in the fall of this year — although judging from the current construction site, the building has a long way to go. Also, it's worth noting that the **Jazzschool** in Berkeley recently began offering a bachelor's degree in music, which means that graduates of Berkeley High or **Oakland School for the Arts** have less reason to move back east if they want to go to music school. Berkeley parents are stepping up, too: Faced with school budget cuts and the 2009 retirement of beloved director Charles Hamilton, they formed a nonprofit organization to fund Berkeley High jazz programs. It pays for musicians like Dave Ellis to come in and lead the ensemble three days a week.

In other words, the Bay Area is abstractly interested in the idea of having a jazz scene. People are willing to pour money into it, devote big buildings to it, and form nonprofits to help buttress it. Just three weeks ago, jazz drummer **Scott Amendola** premiered his orchestral piece "Fade to Orange" at the **Paramount Theatre** in Oakland. He was commissioned to write it for **Oakland East Bay Symphony Orchestra**, which goes to show that local arts boosters are still willing to take a chance on jazz.

Which begs the question: If there's such an interest in jazz and so many talented jazz musicians coming out the Bay Area, why can't the region sustain a thriving jazz scene?

Of course, the Bay Area will never be able to rival New York, if only because of sheer density. With 7 million residents, New York can sustain countless venues that stay open late. Few people have cars. Everything is laid out specifically to generate a vibrant nightlife scene.

In the Bay Area we have sprawl, a lower population density, and a subway system that shuts down at midnight. No matter how much lip service we pay to the idea of nightlife — in any form, not just jazz — we're topographically set up to inhibit it. Such things might explain why Coda never quite took off. Revenues at the bar were low, and Hanson didn't make enough to justify the cost of producing live music. Part of that could have been recession-era purse-string tightening — Hanson speculated that people were buying tickets but skimping on drinks. But a lot of it might have been a lack of continual foot traffic. Coda's location at Mission Street and Duboce Avenue wasn't easy to access by public transit. Plus it was right below

[illegible]

Ambrose Akinmusire got signed to Blue Note after moving to New York.

a freeway overpass, which might have created a psychological barrier.

Out here, there's not really a concentrated downtown for jazz — especially since the Fillmore didn't pan out the way Yoshi's owner **Kaz Kajimura** envisioned. It's clear that jazz can survive at the micro level: funky art spaces like **57th Street Gallery** — a small North Oakland venue run by a longshoreman-turned art collector — and nonprofits like **Intersection for the Arts** will likely do okay. So, perhaps, will the **SFJAZZ Center**, Lamm said, since it won't have to rely on the same business model as a nightclub like Yoshi's. Equipped with a main auditorium of three hundred to seven hundred seats (depending on the show), it'll be more analogous to **Zellerbach Hall** on the UC Berkeley campus. "SFJAZZ is a presenter like everyone else," Lamm said, "but they do have the added luxury of being a nonprofit." Thus, they can take contributions, receive grants and take foundation awards, said Lamm. "Once SFJAZZ has its own center, those financial energies will expand." He noted that the organization's ability to undertake a venture of this scale shows optimism on behalf of jazz fans in San Francisco. "Indeed, we've always lived by the credo that if you build it, they will come."

That said, there's an apparent disconnect between our ideal and our reality. A nightlife scene can't thrive on the backs of nonprofits and arts organizations alone, and jazz musicians can't make a living just playing for restaurant tips. Around here, the market ebbs and flows, said bassist **David Ewell**, who grew up in the East Bay and has played professionally since 1997. "In the Nineties," he said, "there were a lot of young people who flocked to the Haight and the Mission — some were dot-commers, but others just wanted to work in the nonprofit sector and live in a cool, low-rent neighborhood. They had enough disposable income to go out at night, and enough of a hipster sensibility to pay for live music — which is how odd jazz bands like **the Broun Fellinis** and **Alphabet Soup** got really big.

"I don't think the Bay Area is as much a place for that any more," Ewell said. "It's more of a money-tech powerhouse. People aren't as interested in going out, or when they do, it's more to blow off steam. Like they go out to hear a disco cover band and wear a rainbow afro wig." He laughed. "I try not to be too dark about it."

Scott Amendola, who bucked the trend by moving to the Bay Area from his hometown in New Jersey in 1992, agreed that it was a little easier to fill seats in the early-Nineties. "Places come and go," he said, acknowledging that venue closures are really nothing new, and that you don't always need a surfeit of nightclubs to cultivate a great scene. "Back in the mid Nineties, there were a lot of places to play, but there was also a bigger, younger audience that came out. I think there still are a lot of places to play. It's just harder to get bodies out."

Ewell's view of the current jazz market is bleaker. A few hours after our phone conversation, he sent a long, pessimistic e-mail. "Jazz clubs have never been big money-makers," he wrote matter-of-factly. "Opening a jazz club is like buying a vineyard in Napa. It is a good move if you have already made a ton of money doing something else. No one has ever opened a jazz club to put their kids through college. That is why places that are not trying to make a profit and have a different mission are some of the best places to play: **The Red Poppy Art House**, Intersection for the Arts, and Berkeley Jazz School, etc."

He continued, "If musicians are not making music that people want to hear (and pay to hear), then there is no reason for those musicians to expect to make money."

The bigger elephant in the room is that jazz is no longer a popular music form in America, especially among young people. They don't buy albums, jazz isn't played on the radio, and when most people go out on Friday nights, they're not paying to watch a swing band or improv session. The Yoshi's model shows that jazz works sometimes. When an A-list artist like **Diane Reeves**, **Stanley Clarke**, or **McCoy Tyner** comes to town, tickets are hard to come by. Indeed, the best jazz acts will sell as many tickets as the best hip-hop acts. But you can't book Stanley Clarke every night of the week. In addition, Yoshi's is faced with the problem of running two nightclubs — one of which is actually three nightclubs rolled into one — and still maintain a profit margin. To try doing that on jazz alone

[illegible]

Cheaper rent and a better standard of living prevented Michael Aaberg from leaving the Bay Area.

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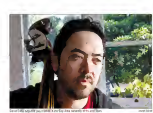

David Ewell says the jazz market in the Bay Area naturally ebbs and flows. Joseph Schell

would be untenable.

That could be a problem of jazz being a niche market, or a genre for older people who don't want to go out late. Whatever the case, it's clear that audiences in the Bay Area are more likely to shell out for R&B and hip-hop.

When Yoshi's decided to expand to San Francisco four years ago, it was unclear whether the club would be able to sustain two locations — an Oakland club with 330 seats, plus a 220-person capacity restaurant and lounge, and a San Francisco behemoth that encompasses two stories and 28,000 square feet. Diversified programming was inevitable, which undoubtedly meant less jazz. Or rather, proportionally less jazz. By that time, Yoshi's had already begun booking Latin dance nights at its Oakland location, in addition to reggae headliners like the Jamaican singer **Eek-A-Mouse**. Pretty soon it would bring **Mos Def** and **Talib Kweli** into the fold, along with singer-songwriters, old Motown artists, classic rockers, and even stand-up comedians.

Jazz fans issued a collective sigh of relief when **Jason Olaine** took over as artistic director of the San Francisco location in 2009. Olaine had booked **Yoshi's** former Claremont Avenue location from 1993 to 1999, before landing a job at **Verve Records** in New York. In other words, he represented an older, purer version of the jazz club. Olaine was viewed as the messiah who would save Yoshi's from bankruptcy while magically turning jazz into a viable income generator.

That turned out to be an impossible burden to shoulder. With the onus on him to pay back a redevelopment agency loan and sustain a giant entertainment complex, Olaine had to get increasingly creative. He and the other staff figured out ways to divide up the club so that it actually functioned as three venues — main stage, mezzanine and lounge — plus the restaurant. They diversified the programming even more — booking acts like **Naughty By Nature** and **Bone Thugs 'N Harmony**, for example — and venturing farther and farther away from Yoshi's core vision of jazz. In 2010, Yoshi's finally became profitable.

"There are a number of organizations in the Bay Area that present jazz, but they're mostly nonprofit," Olaine wrote in an e-mail. "They can go after grants, receive donations and corporate giving that is tax-deductible, whereas we have to survive solely on the goodwill of paying customers."

His point, in a nutshell, is that Yoshi's is actually a business. And though we tend to think of it as a sort of museum for jazz, Olaine's job, in part, is to disabuse us of that notion. He stressed that the club also plans to deemphasize hip-hop in the coming months. "Hip-hop is a broad categorization and there are positive rappers and hip-hop out there that we will want to continue to support," Olaine wrote subsequently. "We experimented with presenting a broad range of it and soon found out that while the audience is there and they do come to Yoshi's, our core music lies elsewhere." Olaine's decision could be related to a recent incident involving one of the venue's sound engineers, **Dan Pettit**, destroying roughly $500 of the club's equipment with a baseball bat following an alleged dispute between another sound engineer and the hip-hop act that performed the previous night, **R.O.D. Project**, according to Yoshi's staff.

Whatever the case, it's clear that the club's core music is no longer jazz. A local musician who wished to remain anonymous since he occasionally gets hired to play in hip-hop and R&B backing bands, said that the programming changes at Yoshi's point to a larger deterioration. "When Bone Thugs-N-Harmony are getting booked for a full weekend at Yoshi's SF, I'd say that's a pretty good indicator of the state of jazz in the Bay Area," he wrote, via Facebook. "Not a reflection on musicians, but maybe on the demand, sadly."

One of the greatest signs of a declining jazz scene is that gigs are drying up in the Bay Area. Saxophonist **Howard Wiley** said he started noticing the decline around 2007, and in the last couple years work dropped precipitously. "Each neighborhood (North Beach, Mission, Jack London) went from having two or three clubs to one," he wrote

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in an e-mail. "The only places for jazz and creative music are the Jazzschool, the Red Poppy Art House, **Amnesia**, and 57th Street Gallery, and none of their places have music — let alone jazz — more than two or three nights a week."

Ellis concurred, adding that it's one thing for horn players to grouse about a lack of gigs, but when your bassists, drummers, and keyboardists can't find work either — well, that's a really bad omen. After all, every band needs a rhythm section. "I came back to the Bay Area in the 2000s and found out that rhythm section players were having a hard time getting gigs," Ellis said, adding that most full-time instrumentalists have to run laps around the world, or resettle in **New York**, just to eke out a living. "I have to tell you, this is one of the longest droughts," he said. "It's making my peers question why we practice all them scales, when people are so tight with their purse strings."

That said, it's definitely possible to make ends meet as a full-time jazz musician in the Bay Area, but the going ain't easy — for any musician, for that matter. Around here, restaurant gigs pay $80 to $150 per musician for about four hours of work, while the more lucrative weddings, corporate events, or private parties can pay anywhere from $500 to $1,000 per musician. Out-of-town concerts often pay well (sometimes musicians can make $900 to $1,000 a pop for one-nighters) and touring musicians usually optimize their revenue by booking a bunch of cheap club gigs around one big performing arts center show. High-caliber local musicians can also demand up to $1,000 a day in the recording studio. Many musicians supplement their income by teaching, touring with pop acts, or joining church bands. Some, like pianist **Vijay Iyer** (a Cal alum who currently lives in New York) start their careers by soliciting grant money for projects, and then use those to break through.

All the same, making it in the jazz scene locally has more to do with who you know than how well you play. There's an uneven distribution of talent, and most business comes by word of mouth. Thus, musicians get more gigs by arriving on time and returning phone calls than by blowing audiences away on the bandstand. Most of them don't have the luxury of turning down gigs they don't want.

And there are other hardships. The unpredictable nature of the business makes it hard to plan anything. A full calendar doesn't guarantee a fat paycheck, since any gig can get canceled at the last minute. The only way to make it work, musicians say, is to hustle extremely hard and keep your name in circulation.

These characteristics are not necessarily specific to jazz, but the genre does seem to create a particularly brutal workhorse lifestyle, especially in a scene with a small audience and a paucity of venues. Thus, few musicians can make it on jazz alone. Some hire themselves out to salsa groups, church bands, cover bands, or touring pop artists. Some sell weed instead of selling their souls. Others marry into money. And many ultimately make the exodus to New York, where jazz still seems to thrive, even if it's not that profitable.

The draw to the East Coast isn't necessarily money. Wages in New York are about commensurate with — or less than — the Bay Area, says Wiley, because of stiffer competition for gigs. The cost of living is higher over there, too.

That said, the high concentration of jazz clubs, record labels, music schools, and great musicians in New York ensures its perpetual superiority over any other scene in the country, Wiley said; the appeal of New York is more about volume than anything else. "It has three major music schools," he said. "It has more of everything." That might explain why the Bay Area keeps grooming talent only to lose it to the East Coast at the expense of cultivating our own scene. And that trend will likely continue.

Howard Wiley says pay in New York is about the same as in the Bay Area; the draw is the volume of resources.

Joseph Schell

Take Julian Waterfall Pollack, a star pianist who graduated from Berkeley High in 2006. He left Berkeley to study at New York University five years ago, and never came back. Pollack currently lives with his girlfriend in a one-bedroom apartment in East Harlem. The two of them have a small kitchen and a living room where Pollack keeps his upright piano. He doesn't need a car and gets around easily by subway. Still, Pollack said that if he had his druthers, he'd move back to Northern California. "I talk to my friends from California all the time and say, 'Why don't we just get thirty to fifty musicians who are just really great to come back to California en masse, and make a scene?'" He laughed.

East Oakland-born drummer **Darrell Green** said he moved in order to play at a higher level, even though it required him to downsize. Ultimately, he saw more opportunities in New York, where there's a vast cross-section of venues, from hole-in-the-wall restaurants like **Cleopatra's Needle**, to medium-size rooms like **Fat Cat**, **Smoke Jazz & Supper Club Lounge**, and **Zinc Bar**, to larger places like **The Village Vanguard** or the **Jazz Standard**. And, he said, in New York you have a more voracious audience. "People seem to appreciate music more out here," Green said by phone while setting up for a gig at **Lincoln Center**. "I have a friend in Fremont who slides out here twice a month to see shows. That's really sad that he has to come all the way to New York to see jazz."

Some musicians who make that pilgrimage ultimately return, since New York is a difficult place to raise families; as Lamm pointed out, it's a fabulous home when you're 18 or 22, and less great when you're 35. Joshua Redman eventually came back, and currently resides in the Bay Area. Dave Ellis also returned home. Drummer **Jaz Sawyer**, a San Francisco native who spent many years gigging in New York, came back to run a small record label and teach at Oakland School for the Arts. "I knew moving back that the pace of the Bay Area could not compare to New York," he wrote, "but it was important for to reconnect with family and fellow musicians again."

And even then, we keep hemorrhaging talent. Among the latest to go are saxophonist **Dayna Stephens**, guitarist **Will Bernard**, singer **Sasha Dobson**, members of the band **Sex Mob**, drummers **Justin Brown** and **Sameer Gupta**. Well-known keyboardist and Berkeley High alum **Michael Aaberg** was contemplating the move a few months ago. "I still think about it a lot," he said. "But I think the quality of life and the standard of living is better in the Bay Area." He pointed out that rent is a lot higher in the metropolitan parts of Manhattan than in Oakland. That's a big price to pay even for the benefit of playing at a higher level. "My plan is just to go to New York often and get my butt kicked," Aaberg said. "Maybe get a New York phone number and pretend I live out there."

Amendola said he loves living in the Bay Area and has found a way to make it work, but he still pays a price for it. "One of the things I'm having a hard time doing is getting work for my own band, and part of it is I don't have that New York tagline at the end of my spiel. You open all the mainstream magazines, you read about people in New York. [It's] this thing that the world looks at."

Granted, musicians in New York don't always recognize their own sex appeal, Amendola said, laughing. "You go to New York and everybody in New York complains, too."

The last time Ambrose Akinmusire performed at Oakland Yoshi's in September, he devoted several minutes of stage time to a plea for more performing arts programs and more funding for arts and music programs in the schools. Akinmusire considers himself a completely homegrown product. He learned to play trumpet at Claremont Middle School, played his first gigs at the neighborhood Baskin Robbins, and ultimately became a lead soloist at Berkeley High. He saw his first-ever jazz concert at the old Yoshi's on Claremont Avenue. He bemoans the fact that journalists from other parts of the country are surprised when they hear he's from Oakland.

And he's right. In pop culture, Oakland might be known for hip-hop, but it's not considered a jazz mecca. Akinmusire has the awkward role of championing a scene that's now imperiled by budget cuts, decreased grant money, and a perennial dearth of venues.

There's still hope, says Berkeley High's current band director **Scott Dailey**. He says that if anything, the Berkeley High music program has expanded in recent years. Parent largesse fills in where tax dollars can't, and, as a result, Berkeley High can still afford to hire professional musicians like Ellis to drop in and work with the students on a regular basis.

Few people have a long enough institutional memory to compare this year's jazz ensemble to its antecedents. But every iteration has its stars. The last of the Hamilton-era superstars was pianist **Sumora Pinderhughes**, who played at Carnegie Hall as a high school student and used to gig at Club Deluxe in the Haight district — he took flak from the older band members because his dad drove him home at 11 p.m.

Pinderhughes currently studies at Juilliard, and his sister **Elena Pinderhughes** plays flute in the Berkeley High jazz ensemble. She's considered another musician to look out for. So are bassist **Erik Shiboski**, vibraphonist **Grant Milliken**, drummer **Lev Facher**, and pianist **Nick Lamb**. The teenage group **PopLyfe** — whose members include both sons of **Tony! Toni! Toné!** singer **D'Wayne Wiggins** — are getting work around the Bay Area. High-ranking players at Oakland School for the Arts include trumpeter **Tracy Fitzsimmons**, drummer **Ayanie Webb** and alto player **Ranzel Merritt** (who also plays in PopLyfe alongside his brother Denzel). Drummer **Malachi Whitson** is the hot young star at **Middle College High School** in Richmond. That's only a partial list.

Sawyer says the new high school crop is actually a lot bigger than it was a decade ago, which makes him relentlessly optimistic. Moreover, since scholarships at fancy East Coast schools are limited, many of these kids might stick around to study at the Jazzschool or **Mills College**. That might be just enough to regenerate the scene.

Or it could mean a glut of talented musicians with nowhere to work. If the venues keep shuttering and jazz is forced underground, more will likely move away. Or change professions. Ewell stuck around, but decided to go to business school after years of working as a full-time musician. It was the only way to raise a family. "Even though I was playing seven nights a week, looking ahead twenty years it was, like, 'Man, I'm gonna get tired,'" he said. "Making a living playing music is for the most part like squeezing blood from a stone."

Trumpeter **Khalil Shaheed** alluded to that problem during a recent jam session at the 57th Street Gallery. His daughter **Savannah Harris** plays drums and attends **Oakland Technical High School**. She's seventeen now and thinking about college. But she probably won't go for music, Shaheed said, laughing sheepishly. "She wants a job." ●

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CULTURE SPY

SHOUTS AND MURMURS

With one of its original members splitting off, has Oakland Art Murmur become a victim of its own success?

By Ellen Cushing

In late 2005, when a group of local galleries got together, printed up a stack of postcards, and formed the raging art collective now known as **Art Murmur**, no one could've predicted what it would become. Six years later, the group's signature event, a monthly art walk, has evolved into a full-on cultural phenomenon drawing thousands of people and diverting traffic around the nucleus of 23rd Street and Telegraph Avenue in Oakland. It's been written up in national magazines and newspapers, and has become a model for similar art walks in other cities.

But with this popularity came a set of new concerns that ultimately led one of the galleries that founded the Murmur, **Rock Paper Scissors Collective**, to leave the group and start its own event, **Oakland Art Ride**, which launches Saturday, May 7. Though the gallery will continue to stay open late on the first Friday of every month, it's a symbolic statement: Art Murmur as it currently exists, no longer serves the local art community the way one of its founding galleries hoped it would.

Practically since it started, the Murmur has been accused — by those both within and outside the organization — of being less an art event than a street party, and of highlighting a small group of galleries with a narrow definition of art. Even gallery owners who are happy with their membership in the organization admit that the Murmur's success can ironically act as a barrier rather than an encouragement for serious art enthusiasts. "For the most part there's just too many people to really be able to show people the art," said **Kimberly Johansson**, owner of **Johansson Projects**. "I think the people who are interested in anything substantial, they're not going to feel comfortable in that atmosphere. I have people that come at five o'clock because they want to see the art but they don't want to be there for the party." For her part, **Jen Zoom** of Rock Paper Scissors said she worries that some are turned off by the street party element and by the people who tend to frequent the Murmur. "I think some people feel like it's really white and hipsterish," she said.

Moreover, as the event has grown, so, naturally, has the burden of organizing it. Gallery owners — most of them artists by training, many of them volunteers, none of them experts in crowd control or event planning — have found themselves wrangling with the city on permitting issues, wading through paperwork, and working to manage the massive crowds that descend on the corner of 23rd and Telegraph once a month. It's a lot of work for an event and an organization whose payoffs can be diffuse. While Johansson maintains the Murmur provides an "indirect boost for business" in that it increases visibility and foot traffic, she also said that "no one's making money from this."

Late last year, the Murmur, now backed by funding from New York-based arts nonprofit **Fractured Atlas**, moved to incorporate itself with **WE Artspace** co-owner **Tina Dillman** as executive director. As Dillman sees it, this was a necessary next step for an organization whose impact is now much too large to be dealt with by an informal group of people meeting once a month at a coffeeshop.

But for some, it exemplifies a larger shift in the Murmur's ethos. What began as a simple attempt to pool resources, share publicity, and get laypeople into galleries on a Friday night has evolved into something much bigger, and the increasing focus on organization — coupled with what some people saw to be exclusiveness and a decreasing focus on the art itself at the expense of the street party — was enough to make Rock Paper Scissors decide to leave.

The politics of art is a sticky issue in Oakland, and all parties are staying admirably diplomatic about the split. "It is sad for us to walk away from an organization that we helped found, organize, grow, and have invested so much time and love into," reads the collective's official statement. "But the Art Murmur's mission and practices are not currently representative of our own mission." And though Zoom is remarkably careful with her words, it doesn't take much in the way of interpretation and extrapolation to figure out what she's getting at. "I've seen it grow from just our friends and other galleries into this —" she cut herself off, "into something very different from the original intent."

So a couple months ago, she and Rock Paper Scissors decided to create a new community art movement — one that's more inclusive of different kinds of art, of galleries, studios, and artists that aren't within the narrow corridor carved out by the Art Murmur path, and of people who might be turned off by Art Murmur's reputation, setup, or atmosphere. Like the original first Friday art walk, Art Ride is essentially a group open house for designated art venues. But unlike its progenitor, the ride will be open to essentially any organization that wants to participate — "gallery, garage, pop-up studio, whatever." And because it's designed to be experienced by bike, it's open to galleries beyond Uptown. "It's a way for us to collaborate with people by coming to them — to spotlight people in their own neighborhoods, making creativity," Zoom said. ●

Ellen.Cushing@EastBayExpress.com

Event Info

Oakland Art Ride: Tours led by East Bay Bike Party will leave Rock Paper Scissors, beginning May 7 (2278 Telegraph Ave. Oakland) noon to sundown, free.

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[illegible] Day 2011 at the Ruth Bancroft Garden With tours, professional family photos ($15-$30), and food and drink for sale, in addition to the garden's standard offerings. Free admission for Moms. Sun., May 8, 10 a.m.-3 p.m. $7-$10. Ruth Bancroft Garden, 1552 Bancroft Rd., Walnut Creek. 925-944-9352. RuthBancroftGarden.org.

Park Street Spring Festival With more than 150 vendors selling art, crafts, and gifts, live music, food and brews for sale, kids activities, and more. May 7-8, 10 a.m.-6 p.m., free. Park Street Business District, Park St., Alameda.

Walking the Talk Celebration of social justice activists and an exhibition featuring music by Francisco Herrera, awarded by [illegible], [illegible], and [illegible], Tony Fazio, and more. Sat., May 7, 7-9:30 p.m., $10 (donation requested). Lake Merritt Garden, 1520 Lakeshore Ave., Oakland.

HEALTH & WELLNESS

Baby's Klub, featuring Elizabeth House A mobile health van where parents... immunizations, health education, check-ups, blood pressure checks, and Head Start screenings entirely free to children. On-site physicians are [illegible] and [illegible]. Please bring your child's yellow immunization card. [illegible] Wednesday of every month, 5:30-7 p.m., 510-444-4320. Elizabeth House, 6423 Colby St., Oakland. 510-658-1380. ElizabethHouse.org.

Live Music and Vinyasa Class Join Sheila [illegible] and [illegible] Tucker for a vinyasa practice with live music. First Saturday of every month. 7th Heaven Yoga, 2820 7th St., Berkeley. 510-665-4590. 7thHeavenYoga.com.

KIDS

Family Entrepreneur Art Station Arts and crafts workshop, supplies provided. First Saturday, Sunday of every month, 1-3 p.m. $8. MOCHA - Museum of Children's Art, 538 9th St., Oakland. 510-465-8770. MOCHA.org.

San Leandro Farmers' Market Kids' Day With special activities for kids. First Saturday of every month, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Free. San Leandro Farmers' Market, Pelton Plaza, San Leandro.

The [illegible] Bubble Show Interactive, family-friendly show from The Berkeley Bubble Man. Sundays, 11 a.m. Continues through July 31. $8-$15. The Marsh Berkeley at Gaia Arts Center, 2120 Allston Way, Berkeley. 510-644-4840. TheMarsh.org.

LGBT

Trip the Light Fantastic Beginners are invited to learn two-step, East and West Coast swing, salsa, waltzes, nightclub two-step, [illegible], and line dance. First and third Friday of every month, 7:30-11 p.m. $10-$20 sliding scale, includes the lesson. 510-703-5343. TripTheLightFantastic.org. Lake Merritt Dance Center, 200 Grand Ave., Oakland. 510-594-2120. LakeMerrittDanceCenter.org.

RELIGION & SPIRITUALITY

Sally Kempton and Marc Gafni: "Turning Poison into Nectar" The spiritual teachers conduct a workshop in tantra and the transformation of the heart. Thu., May 5, 6:30-10 p.m. $13-$15. Rudramandir, 830 Bancroft Way, Berkeley. 510-486-8047. Rudramandir.com.

SALES & PROMOTIONS

Berkeley Potters Guild Annual Seconds Sale and Gallery Stroll More than 800 pots, mugs, and other ceramics for sale. Friday night opening party also features live music and food. Saturdays, Sundays, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Continues through May 8. free. Berkeley Potters' Guild, 731 Jones St., Berkeley. 510-524-7638. www.berkeleypotters.com.

Mother's Day Trunk Show With gifts for sale, tarot card readings, a wine tasting, and vegan edibles. Sat., May 7, 1-5 p.m. free. [illegible], 2983 College Ave., Berkeley.

SPORTS & OUTDOORS-PARTICIPATORY

4th Golden Berkeley High Golf Classic Four-person scramble golf tournament (individual players are welcome and will be placed on an open team), in addition to a putting contest, a raffle, and prizes. Proceeds benefit Berkeley High's Golden programs. Fri., May 6, 12-5 p.m. $95 to attend; $125 to participate. Tilden Park Golf Course, 10 Golf Course Dr., Berkeley. 510-848-7373. TildenParkGC.AmericanGolf.com.

California Peace Officers' Association Memorial Run With 5 and 10K run-walk courses, in addition to a kids' fun run. All proceeds go toward the Concerns of Police Survivors (C.O.P.S.), which serves the families of officers killed in the line of duty. Also featuring an awards ceremony and a family barbecue after the walk. See [illegible] for more information and to register. Sat., May 7, 7 a.m. $15-$35. Shadow Cliffs, 2500 Stanley Blvd., Pleasanton. 510-544-3230. EBParks.org/Parks/Shadow_Cliffs.

Critical Mass Bike ride through [illegible]. Info: CriticalMass.org. First Friday of every month, 5:30 p.m. free. Frank Ogawa Plaza, at 14th St. and Broadway, Oakland.

SPORTS-SPECTATOR

Golden Gate Fields Derby Days Sundays. $5. Golden Gate Fields, 1100 Eastshore Hwy., Berkeley. 510-559-7300. GoldenGateFields.com.

Oakland A's vs. Cleveland Indians Thu., May 5, 11:55 a.m. $9-$201. Coliseum, 7000 Coliseum Way, Oakland.

Submissions for calendar listings should be e-mailed to Calendar@EastBayExpress.com or mailed to Calendar Editor, East Bay Express, 620 3rd St., Oakland, CA, 94607. Deadline is 14 days prior to the event date.

PICKS

Mother's Day

Mother's Day is catch-you-off-guard earlier this year, but never fear: No matter which side of the parenting equation you're on, there's plenty to do for and with your family this weekend. Grand Lake gift shop **Urban Indigo** (3329 Lakeshore Ave., Oakland) is throwing a party featuring live music, door prizes, demonstrations, plenty, and free food on Saturday, May 7 (2 p.m., free). Alameda's **USS Hornet Museum** is hosting a Big Band Dance, complete with lessons, three floors of dancing, and live music by The Jimmy Dorsey Orchestra (Sat., May 7, 8 p.m., $45). Meanwhile, restaurants including **Italian Colors** (2220 Mountain Blvd., Oakland; 510-482-8094 or ItalianColorsRestaurant.com), the **Lake Chalet** (1520 Lakeside Dr., Oakland; 510-208-5253 or TheLakeChalet.com), and **Revival** (2102 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley; RevivalBarAndKitchen.com or 510-549-9950) are offering special promotions on Sunday, May 8; check their respective websites for full details. — *Ellen Cushing*

Park Street Spring Festival

As of a couple weeks ago, it's officially spring, and this means only one thing: the East Bay Festival season is upon us. Celebrate the most wonderful time of the year on Saturday and Sunday, May 7-8, with the **Park Street Spring Festival**, an annual two-day event featuring more than 250 vendors, arts and crafts, kids' activities, live music, beer, wine, and food for sale, and more in Alameda's impossibly idyllic **Park Street district** (Park St. and Lincoln Way, Alameda). 10 a.m.-6 p.m. both days, free. 510-523-1392 or ShopParkStreet.com. — *E.C.*

Sequoia Trail Race

To run among the redwoods, one can travel seventy miles to the Santa Cruz Mountains, or hundreds more to the North Coast or the southern Sierra. But East Bay residents may be better off driving, biking, or riding public transport to Oakland's **Joaquin Miller Park** and adjacent **Redwood Regional Park** — squint your eyes a bit and you'll hardly tell the difference. On Sunday, May 8, the two parks host Pacific Coast Trail Runs' **Sequoia Trail Race**, which is actually four races in one. Participants are welcome to try their hand — er, feet — at 10K, 20K, 30K, or 50K courses; all four travel through both parks, but only the longer ones visit the picturesque French Trail. 8:30 a.m. $40-$85. PCTrailRuns.com — *Nate Seltenrich*

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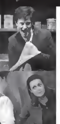

2010–2011 SEASON

music dance theater
Cal Performances
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, BERKELEY

Druid
The Cripple of Inishmaan
by Martin McDonagh
Directed by Garry Hynes

Wed–Fri, May 4–14
Zellerbach Playhouse

"A fiendishly funny sendup of rural Irish life." —*Washington Post*

Famed Irish theater company Druid returns with award-winning playwright (*The Beauty Queen of Leenane*, *The Lieutenant of Inishmore*) Martin McDonagh's comic masterpiece. Set in rural Ireland in 1934 and directed by Tony Award winner Garry Hynes, the play depicts the impact of a Hollywood film crew on the local residents when it shows up to document the tiny island of Inishmaan. When young, orphaned "cripple Billy" is selected for a part in the film, his dreams of escape take flight. This production set an attendance record at New York's Atlantic Theater.

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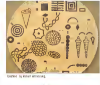
MUSEUMS & GALLERIES

Disestablishmentarian

A semi-obscure California artist emerges again, briefly

Antidisestablishmentarianism is a word we've all bandied about lightly for shame. Real antidisestablishmentarians led by **William Gladstone** (who coined the term in 1838) successfully opposed the disestablishment of the Church of England as state religion — a comfort to royalist believers everywhere.

Art is the new aesthetic religion, of course, but it's also these days entertainment and business. Many contemporary art-worlders fling open the gates to Parnassus, implicitly accepting the Institutional Theory of Art of philosopher/critic Arthur Danto ("To see something as art requires something the eye cannot descry — an atmosphere of artistic theory, a knowledge of the history of art: an artworld") and theorist George Dickie ("A work of art ... is 1) an artifact 2) upon which some person or persons acting on behalf of a certain social institution [the artworld] has conferred the status of candidate for appreciation"). Like the keepers of The Ark, we're "top men": we know what's best.



Untitled, by Robert Armstrong.

One artist who seems indifferent to the status hierarchy hoopla is **Robert Armstrong** of Monterey, who recently exhibited in two small Berkeley galleries: the Garage Gallery show closed last week, but ***Meanwhile ... and Elsewhere*** continues at **Barbara Anderson Gallery**. Despite a cult following from his Berkeley days, his diffidence is notable: "I installed work in a small bookshop window on Claremont Ave. from 1987 to 2000. That was the closest thing I've found to an ideal way to engage people and show my work. ... Although there is the occasional critical response, and a small number of 'fans,' basically I don't do anything to develop wider connections, etc. I think I prefer the ease of just doing what I want to with an occasional show [illegible]."

Marsden Hartley's "hermit radical" *beau idéal*? The work is anything but obscure or pretentious: it is instead beautiful, eccentric, and funny, radiant with "surprise, learning, fascination, and challenge to expectations." The small- and medium-size abstract "pattern" and "plaid" paintings, with their staccato rhythms and delectable palettes, are infectiously joyous, melding Dubuffet, Haring, and aboriginal art (and probably other improbables). He adds collage and assemblage to book covers and vinyl LP discs (which take on a hieroglyphic-punk look). He twists strands of kelp into [illegible]-like knots, which he designates "charms," and labels them with gibberish words and constructs elegantly absurd spindle-shaped carrying cases for various oddments. His wire-mesh cases for balls of compressed newspaper evoke the cosmic lottery in which we all participate, with or without benefit of clergy. *Meanwhile ... and Elsewhere* runs through May 7 at Barbara Anderson Gallery (2243 5th St., Berkeley). 510-848-3822 or BarbaraAndersonGallery.com.

— *DeWitt Cheng*

ART GALLERIES

ACCI Gallery: World Work by Leslie Corsiglia, Cathy Cat, Louise Forbush, Susan Putnam, and Mitchel World. Through May 8. 1652 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley. 510-843-2527. ACCIGallery.com.

Art House Gallery & Cultural Center: Group Show: BCC Digital Arts Club With work by more than forty members of Berkeley City College's Digital Art Club. Through June 15. 2905 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley. 510-472-3170.

Berkeley Art Center: Light/Dark Work by members of the California Society of Printmakers, selected by Enrique Chagoya. Through May 29. 1275 Walnut St. (in Live Oak Park), Berkeley. 510-644-6893. BerkeleyArtCenter.org.

Berkeley Art Museum: Himalayan Pilgrimage: Journey to the Land of Snows Sculpture and painting from Tibet. Through June 30, 2012. free-$10. 2626 Bancroft Way, Berkeley. 510-642-0808. BAMPFA.Berkeley.edu.

Berkeley City College: ensamble(s) Juried student art show with work in digital and traditional media. Through Aug. 24. 2050 Center St., Berkeley. 510-981-2831. Peralta.edu.

Berkeley Shambhala Center: The Sacred Gift: Tradition and Modernity in the Spiritual Art of Nepal Traditional and contemporary Nepalese art. Through May 15. free. 2288 Fulton St., Berkeley. 510-841-3242.

Frank Bette Center for the Arts: Alameda on Camera Group art show featuring photographs of Alameda taken by local amateur and professional photographers. Through May 28. free. 1601 Paru St., Alameda. 510-523-6957. FrankBetteCenter.org.

Chandra Cerrito Contemporary: [illegible] Printmakers. Through May 13. 480 23rd Street, Oakland. 510-260-7494. ChandraCerrito.com.

[illegible] Gallery: First Friday Series Featuring work by [illegible]. First Friday of every month, 6 p.m. [illegible] St., Oakland. 510-451-4661.

David Brower Center: [illegible]: Ecological Art in Practice Work by [illegible] McCormick. Through May 11. 2150 Allston Way, Berkeley.

Expressions Gallery: [illegible] Art Work in various media by local artists. Through June 11. 2035 Ashby Ave., Berkeley. 510-644-4930. ExpressionsGallery.org.

Float Gallery: [illegible] Paintings by Patrick [illegible] and sculpture by [illegible]. Through June 4. 1091 Calcot Pl., Oakland. 510-535-1702. TheFloatCenter.com.

John F. Kennedy University Arts and Consciousness Gallery, Berkeley: [illegible]: A Quest for the [illegible] Work by Claudia Marseille, Jenn Shifflet, and Ellen Vogel. Through May 21. free. 2956 San Pablo Ave., Berkeley. 510-647-2099. JFKU.edu/gallery.

[illegible] Work by [illegible] Foster, [illegible]. Through May 7. 480 23rd St., Oakland.

Mercury 20 Gallery: [illegible] [illegible] by Charlie Milgrim, Kathleen King, P.K. [illegible], and others. Through May 29. **On the Plane**: Sculpture, installation and drawing by Charlie Milgrim. May 5-28. **The Open Room**: kinetic installation by Kathleen King, Dave Mester and Laura von Burell. May 5-28. 473 25th St., Oakland. 510-444-7799. Mercury20.com.

Mythos Fine Art & Artifacts: [illegible] Paintings by Paul [illegible], David Young Allen, Lilly [illegible], Harry Jacobsen, and others. May 6-June 15. 1747 Solano Ave., Berkeley.

NIAD Art Center: [illegible] Work in various media by more than ten artists. Through June 3. 551 23rd St., Richmond. 510-620-0290. NIADart.org.

Oakland Museum of California: [illegible] C. McMillan: [illegible] Career retrospective of the mixed-media artist, featuring sculptures, paintings, installations, and more. Through Aug. 14. free with museum admission. 1000 Oak St., Oakland. 510-238-2200. MuseumCA.org.

[illegible] Gallery: [illegible] Exhibition of work by various artists. [illegible]. Through May 14. 441 24th St., Oakland.

Pro Arts Gallery: Oakland Art Night Pro Arts extends its gallery hours in conjunction with Oakland's Art Night, First Friday of every month, 6-9 p.m. Free. info@proartsgallery.org. 150 Frank H. Ogawa Plaza, Oakland. 510-763-4361.

Richmond Art Center: Beyond Tradition: Art Legacies @ the Richmond Art Center With work by various artists from the center's 75-year run. Through June 18. 2540 Barrett Ave., Richmond. 510-620-6772. TheRichmondArtCenter.org.

Royal NoneSuch Gallery: Antarctica Work in various media by [illegible] Sharpe, Michael [illegible], Matthew [illegible], Teresa Pratt, and others. May 6-28. 4231 Telegraph Ave., Oakland. RoyalNonesuchGallery.com.

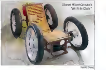
San Pablo Art Gallery: [illegible] Paintings and sculpture by [illegible]. Through May 8. San Pablo Civic Center Sq., 13831 San Pablo Ave., San Pablo. CI.SanPablo.ca.us.

State Contemporary Art and Design Gallery: Introduction: Five Bay Area Painters Work by David Applegarth, [illegible], Jeanne Fox, Carol [illegible], and [illegible]. May 6-June 18. 471 Telegraph Ave., Oakland.

Trywick Contemporary: [illegible] Work by [illegible]. Through May 7. **Mother May I**: Sculpture by Nancy [illegible]. Through May 7. [illegible] Ave., Berkeley. Trywick.com.

WeArtspace: [illegible] Recent paintings and drawings by [illegible]. Through May 14. 708 40th St., Oakland. WeArtspace.com.

PICKS



DeWitt Cheng

Drive the Herd

If American culture's dominating metaphor is, as one cultural hint once posited, the penetration of space ("To boldly go where no one has gone before"), then **Shawn HibmaCronan**'s mechanically enhanced mobile chairs — wheelchair ("Lux Frost"), recliner ("Air Ride Chair"), lifeguard seat ("Perch"), fisherman's seat ("Angler"), and classroom chair ("Escape Desk") — combine our hurry-up-and-wait mindset with absurdist wit and immaculate workmanship. The artist: "The material is disguised and the mechanism is hidden. My work is meant to be picked up, poked at, sat in, and rolled around ... physical interaction with the work is absolutely necessary." Taking the pieces for a spin may not be feasible here, but your mind will still race. See the documentation on "PRESS," a printing apparatus dedicated to one word: Freedom. Which way to the frontier? Follow the crowds. **Drive the Herd**, curated by Anja Ulfeldt, runs through May 7 at **Basement Gallery** (1627 3rd St., Oakland). 510-917-2030 or BasementGallery.mosaicglobe.com. — *DeWitt Cheng*

paintings terry furry through june 2011

sucré

wine reception
May 8, 4-6pm

encuentro
cafe and wine bar

200 2nd @ Jackson
Oakland CA

THEATER & DANCE

Disassembly in One Cut

Why Impact's latest premiere has no sound cues, scene changes, or blackouts

Impact Theatre's *Disassembly*

Cheshire Isaacs

In the olden days — "olden" meaning mid-20th century — plays were designed for people with attention spans. **Arthur Miller** and **Tennessee Williams** specialized in three-act dramas wherein each act would consist of a single long scene. Character relationships would unfold in long swaths of dialogue. Spaces would seem small and claustrophobic. Themes and storylines would gradually precipitate, rather than steer the action. Unlike the jerky, jump-cutty, sitcom-oriented works of contemporary playwrights, these more traditional plays would feature no scene changes or blackouts. That meant no one had the option of sneaking out.

Playwright **Steve Yockey** used the same technique in *Disassembly*, his new offbeat comedy about an accident-prone — or at least perennially injured — guy named Evan. The play, which premieres this week at **Impact Theatre**, is one continuous event from beginning to end. That makes it quite distinct from Yockey's last play, *Large Animal Games*, which was a series of vignettes based on a theme. Director **Desdemona Chiang** says she finds the new style refreshing. She says it was probably a natural result of Yockey's writing process. "I know initially the first draft of the play he wrote in one night," she offered.

Disassembly features seven characters, among them Evan's batty yet oddly sympathetic sister, his fiancée, a mild-mannered wallflower (played by the ever-endearing **Seth Thygesen**), and a cat lady neighbor. Everyone has his own neuroses and his own secrets to guard. Much of the action is about uncovering truths and ironing out relationships — all accomplished through a series of "reveals."

Both Yockey and Chiang are products of the Impact system, which is very much about nurturing undiscovered playwrights and directors. Yockey debuted his first play with Impact in 2006. Since then he's produced three more works with the company, and gone on to premiere works at other venues throughout the Bay Area — including San Francisco's Magic Theatre. Chiang came to Impact in 2004, initially to play the part of Lady Macbeth. She says she auditioned on a lark and doesn't consider herself a born actress. Nonetheless, Chiang quickly became enamored of the scrappy enterprise, which has long survived in the basement of a pizza parlor. "We'd scrounge and scrape and steal and borrow," she said, trying to explain how directors **Cheshire Isaacs** and **Melissa Hillman** consistently make something out of nothing.

In some ways it pays to have such a small operation. Hillman keeps tabs on the graduating classes from New York University, and she's always scouring master's programs to find the most promising new playwrights. As a result, Impact has become an incredibly successful incubator, grooming people like Yockey, **Enrique Urueta** (author of the fabulous pop culture farce *Learn to Be Latina*), and **Joshua Conkel**, whose play *MilkMilkLemonade* provided a different kind of parable about growing up gay in small-town America. In Yockey's case, the company-director relationship is strong enough to ensure a near-flawless transition from page to stage. Yockey wanted the characters in *Disassembly* to stew together like chemicals in a vial, so that ultimately the play's title would seem warranted. Chiang hewed to his vision.

Disassembly runs through June 11 at **La Val's Subterranean Theatre** (1834 Euclid Ave., Berkeley). $10-$20. ImpactTheatre.com

— *Rachel Swan*

COMEDY

Be Funny [illegible] Hosted by Christopher Pagano and featuring DJ [illegible]. Sundays, 1 p.m. Free. The New Parish, 579 18th St., Oakland. TheNewParish.com.

Bryan Kellen Through May 5, 7:30 p.m. $18-$20 plus two-item minimum. Tommy T's Comedy Steakhouse, 5104 Hopyard Rd., Pleasanton. 925-227-1800. TommyTs.com.

The Business Featuring local veterans Sean Keane, Alex Hall, [illegible], and Chris Garcia, with rotating guests. Wednesdays, 8 p.m. $5. The Dark Room, 2263 Mission St., San Francisco. 415-401-7987. DarkRoomSF.com.

The Comedy Grab Bag With [illegible] professional and amateur comics doing 5- to 10-minute sets. Thursdays, 7:30-9 p.m. $5, plus two-item minimum. Bunjo's Comedy Lounge, 6015 Regional St., Dublin. 925-264-4413. BunjosComedy.com.

Comedy Night Hosted by Tony Sparks. Thursdays, 7 p.m. free. Brainwash Cafe, 1122 Folsom St., San Francisco. 415-861-3663. Brainwash.com.

Comedy Open Mic Sign-ups at 5:30 p.m. [illegible] gets 5 minutes. Mondays, 7 p.m. $5. Tommy T's Comedy Steakhouse, 5104 Hopyard Rd., Pleasanton. 925-227-1800. TommyTs.com.

Comedy Blast [illegible] by Blinky the Fool, [illegible]. Mondays, 8 p.m. [illegible] St., San Francisco. 415-387-6344. [illegible].com.

Johnny Steele and Edwin Lee Thu., May 5, 7 p.m.; May 6-7, 8 & 10 p.m. $18. Mad Pearl's Jam House, One Broadway, Oakland. [illegible].com.

Jon Lovitz Fri., May 6, 7:30 & 9:30 p.m.; Sat., May 7, 7 & 9:30 p.m. $25-$36, plus two-item minimum. Tommy T's Comedy Steakhouse, 5104 Hopyard Rd., Pleasanton. 925-227-1800. TommyTs.com.

Magic & Wheel With Big A. Corso & Frisco Fred [illegible] theater performance of magic and comedy guests. Saturdays, 8 p.m. $20. [illegible] Market Theater, Stage 250, San Francisco. 415-640-1979.

Marga's Funny Mondays Weekly intimate and [illegible] showcase featuring a rotating cast of comedians and hosted by local comedian Marga Gomez. Mondays, 8 p.m. $10. The Marsh Berkeley at Gaia Arts Center, 2120 Allston Way, Berkeley. 510-644-4940. TheMarsh.org.

Mrs. Hughes Sun., May 8, 4 & 7 p.m. $20-$32 plus two-item minimum. Tommy T's Comedy Steakhouse, 5104 Hopyard Rd., Pleasanton. 925-227-1800. TommyTs.com.

Saturday Night Comedy with Ann Randolph, Merle [illegible], Ian Shartes, [illegible], and Johnny [illegible] featuring a rotating lineup of other performers. Saturdays, 8 p.m. $15-35 sliding scale; $50 reserved seats. The Marsh Berkeley at Gaia Arts Center, 2120 Allston Way, Berkeley. 510-644-4940. TheMarsh.org.

SF Comedy Showcase Sundays, 8 p.m. $10. Punch Line, 444 Battery St., San Francisco. 415-397-4337. SFPunchlineComedyClub.com.

Stone Soup Hosted Comedy A monthly showcase of improvised yuk-yuks. First Saturday of every month, 8 p.m. $7-$10. Temescal Arts Center, 511 48th St., Oakland. 510-923-1074. TemescalArtsCenter.org.

[illegible] A vaudevillian game show-style MC battle and poetry slam. Hosted by [illegible] Kennedy and Geoff [illegible]. First Thursday of every month, 8:30 p.m. $7-$10. Oakland Metro Opera House, 630 3rd St., Oakland. 510-763-1146. OaklandMetro.org.

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PICKS

ahdance

East Bay choreographer **Abigail Hosein** commands a powerful dance vocabulary

Pak Bender

Abigail Hosein.

which she uses to shape new, gelling stories in movement. But she branched well beyond dance to create two premieres to be performed by her six-year-old company **ahdance**, Friday through Sunday, May 6-8. Hosein collaborated with San Francisco ambient quartet **Entamoeba** on a layered and looped live score, and she invited *Poetry vs. Slam* artists **Nazelah Jamison**, **Dre Johnson**, **Patrick Oboland**, and **Dusty Shrum** to share the **Ashby Stage** (1901 Ashby Ave., Berkeley) with her exceptional contemporary dancers. The result is a stirring dialogue between rhythm, words, and motion, and an evocative kaleidoscope of perspectives on the human experience in a chaotic world. Fri.-Sat., 8 p.m.; Sun., 3 p.m. $20. 510-837-0776 or Ahdance.org. — *Claudia Bauer*

Three Sisters

Three Sisters

[illegible].com

Playwright **Sarah Ruhl** may be known for odd, jagged storylines and elliptical language. But given the chance to adapt a well-known canonical play by **Anton Chekhov**, she made surprisingly few additions. Using a translation by **Elise Thoron** as her point of departure, Ruhl kept the plot of Chekhov's *Three Sisters* largely intact, though she endeavored to make the language more colloquial and less mannered. She injected enough humor into the first act to render it a lighthearted comedy, which makes the tragedy of the second half seem all the more serious and grave. And she added a few winking bits to illuminate character differences. The production, under the direction of **Les Waters**, manages to be smart without being glib, save for some too-literal costume choices by **Ilona Somogyi**, who dressed the three sisters in monochrome. **Natalia Payne** is superb as the vampy deadpan Masha. **Annie Smart**'s enormously detailed set speaks volumes. Through May 22 at **Berkeley Repertory Theatre** (2025 Addison St., Berkeley). $17-$73. 510-647-2949 or BerkeleyRep.org. — *Rachel Swan*

THEATER & PERFORMING ARTS

Born and Raised Musical about the meaning of family in various forms, written and directed by Jon Tracy with musical direction by Scott [illegible]. Fridays at 7:30 p.m.; Saturdays at 2 p.m. and 7 p.m.; Sundays at noon and 5 p.m. Through May 8. $15 online in advance, or pay-what-you-can for available seats at door (cash only) [illegible]. Julia Morgan Center for the Arts, 2640 College Ave., Berkeley. 510-845-8542. JuliaMorgan.org.

Three Sisters Sarah Ruhl's adaptation of the family drama by Anton Chekhov. Directed by Les Waters and starring [illegible] Carpenter, Richard Farrell, [illegible], Emily Kitchens, Bruce McKenzie, and Alex Moggridge. With various discounts, discussions, and other Berkeley Rep events; check web site for full schedule of performances. Tuesdays-Sundays. Continues through May 22. $17-$73. Berkeley Repertory Theatre, 2025 Addison St., Berkeley. 510-647-2949. BerkeleyRep.org.

The Cripple of Inishmaan Dark comedy about a small Irish town thrown into [illegible] when a documentary filmmaker comes to visit. Written by Martin McDonagh. Directed by Gary [illegible] and starring [illegible] Murphy and [illegible]. Sundays, 2 p.m.; Tuesdays-Sundays, 8 p.m. Continues through May 14. $30. Zellerbach Playhouse, 2430 [illegible] Ave., Berkeley. 510-642-9988. CalPerfs.Berkeley.edu.

Out of Sight Comedic one-woman show written by and starring Sara Felder and directed by [illegible]. Sundays, 3 p.m.; Saturdays, 5 p.m. Continues through May 8. $20-$50. The Marsh Berkeley at Gaia Arts Center, 2120 Allston Way, Berkeley. 510-644-4940. TheMarsh.org.

Not a Genuine Black Man One-man show written and performed by Brian Copeland. Thursdays. Continues through June 16. $20-$35 sliding scale or $50 reserved seat. The Marsh Berkeley at Gaia Arts Center, 2120 Allston Way, Berkeley. 510-644-4940. TheMarsh.org.

Passion Play West Coast premiere of the critically acclaimed drama. Written by Sarah Ruhl. Directed by [illegible], produced by the Actor's Ensemble of Berkeley. Fridays, Saturdays, 7 p.m.; Sundays, 2 p.m. Continues through May 1[illegible]. $12-$15. Live Oak Theatre, 1301 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley. 510-845-6507.

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First Friday

ART OPENINGS & EVENTS

See the Art Gallery listings in the *Express* for more information on East Bay art showings

Spend an evening supporting local arts!

Some venues offering art openings and/or special events on First Friday May 6th.

ALAMEDA

Frank Bette Center
1601 Park St.

ALBANY

Gathering Tribes
1412 Solano Ave.

BERKELEY

Berkeley Art Museum
2626 Bancroft Way

Berkeley Potters Guild
731 Jones St.

Kala Gallery
2990 San Pablo Ave.

Urbanity
1887 Solano Ave

KENSINGTON

Nan Phelps Photography
398 Colusa Ave

OAKLAND

21 Grand
416 25th St

4707 Gallery
4707 Telegraph

57th Street Gallery
5701 Telegraph Ave.

Anna Edwards Gallery
237 East 14th St.

Actual Cafe
6334 San Pablo Ave.

Bay Area Visual Arts Network
455 17th St.

Bellevue Club
525 Bellevue Ave

Book Zoo
14 Glen Ave

Buzz Gallery
2318 Telegraph Ave.

Café Van Kleef
1621 Telegraph Ave

Chandra Cerrito Gallery
25 Grand Ave

Classic Cars West
411 26th St

Clausen House
650 Grand Ave

The Compound Gallery
1167 65th St.

Creative Growth
355 24th St.

The Crucible's

Cathedral Gallery
1615 Broadway

Dasa Arts
4810 Telegraph

Five Ten Studio
831 Broadway Ave

FM Gallery
483 25th St.

Forthrite Gallery
5857 San Pablo Ave

Front Gallery
35 Grand Ave

Gamma Space
6608 San Pablo Ave

Great Wall of Oakland
Back wall on Grand Ave. between Broadway and Valley

Hatch
492 23rd St.

Johansson Projects
2300 Telegraph Ave

Joyce Gordon Gallery
406 14th St.

Krowswork Gallery
480 23rd St.

Kuhl Frames + Art
472 22nd St

The Layover
1517 Franklin St

Levende East
827 Washington St.

Liraille
3980 Piedmont Ave.

LeBot Gallery
1800 Campbell St.

Lukas Taproom & Lounge
2221 Broadway

Macarthur Barthur
4030 MLK Way

Mercury 20
475 25th St.

The Moon
447 25th St.

Oakopolis
447 25th St.

Paradise Lounge
2272 Telegraph Ave.

ProArts
150 Frank H. Ogawa Plaza

Pro Arts @ Latham Square
1611 Telegraph Ave

RAW Gallery
1951 Telegraph Ave.

Red Door Gallery
416 26th St.

Rock Paper Scissors Collective
2278 Telegraph Ave.

Rooz Café
1918 Park Blvd.

Royal Nonesuch Gallery
4231 Telegraph

Rowan Morrison
330 40th St.

SLATE Contemporary
4770 Telegraph Ave

Smokeys Tangle
4709 Telegraph Ave

Somar Bar and Lounge
1727 Telegraph Ave

Spice Monkey Café and Restaurant
1628 Webster St.

Studio One Art Center
365 45th St

Studio Quercus
385 26th St.

Swarm Studios & Gallery
560 2nd St.

The Sweet!Art

Drawing Gallery
6602 San Pablo Ave.

Tech Liminal
268 14th St.

Temescal Arts Center
511 48th St.

Thelma Harris Art Gallery
5940 College Ave

UrbanSpace Gallery
811 Washington St
San Leandro

Vessel Gallery
471 25th St

Warehouse 416
416 26th St.

If you are an East Bay venue offering a First Friday evening art event, please email your information to Promotions@EastBayExpress.com to be included in the June directory

EAST BAY EXPRESS

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LECTURES & LIT

Post-Apocolyptic Noir

Nathan Larson delves into Dewey Decimal.

While writing his debut novel *The Dewey Decimal System*, **Nathan Larson** at first resisted setting it in a dystopia. "The seed for this book was simply an image I had," he said. "A man in a suit, sleeping in a completely empty room at the NYC Main Branch Public Library." But as the story unfolded, "I realized I needed to completely empty out the city for this guy in order to get the tone I was aiming for." That tone — the urban wasteland of a post-apocalyptic Manhattan in the very near future — is the meaty set of bones from which Larson hangs a pretty straightforward noir mystery, with an outsider at the center and a whole lot of untrustworthy people competing for his loyalty and/or his hide, often in the same scene.

Nathan Larson

Larson, reading on Thursday, May 5, at **Pegasus Downtown** (2349 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley) with **Nina Revoyr**, is an award-winning film composer (*Boys Don't Cry*, *Dirty Pretty Things*, and others) and bassist for Nineties indie-prog band Shudder to Think. Appropriately, *The Dewey Decimal System* has a pervasive tunefulness, and its narrator, the memory-deficient, obsessive-compulsive gun-for-hire Dewey Decimal (so nicknamed because of his residence in the library, trying to reorder the stacks after the city has been decimated by a series of terrorist attacks — "The Valentine's Occurrence," or simply "2/14") is a sharp-dressed guy with an impressive musical vocabulary and a lyrical speaking style.

He's also mixed-race — Filipino, Saint Lucian, and Trinidadian — which came in handy when Larson began to explore Manhattan's post-Valentine's ethnic- and class-based clannishness. "Given a cataclysm like the one I describe in this novel, people would most likely circle their wagons around their own. Just as New York City, as diverse a place as anywhere in the world, has those tight little enclaves," Larson said. "Dewey is clearly 'other' in the sense that he doesn't really slot in to any category, and he doesn't give a shit actually, but he certainly observes these various groups banding together to some end, or battling against each other, fighting over scraps."

As Dewey lurches through the boroughs, smoking, drugging, and very often bleeding, he remains as much an enigma to us as he does to himself. He has memories that could be real or implanted, and he has a jones for a mysterious "medication" that may or may not serve to keep his heart from exploding. But he is his own man, and in that respect he resembles Dashiell Hammett's Continental Op, the nameless detective at the center of the noir classic *Red Harvest* and other short stories — out of breath, out of allies, and usually out of luck. Larson drew inspiration from hardboiled writers like James M. Cain, David Goodis, and Jim Thompson, the smart, weird sci-fi of J.G. Ballard and Philip K. Dick, and speculative literary fiction by David Foster Wallace and Will Self. The result is a narrative that's gritty, gripping, tight as a drumhead, and just strange enough to keep things really interesting.

Dewey's riddles aren't done — not the ones regarding his identity, nor the ones in which he's embroiled. "I've got a second book well on its way and a third in the planning stages," Larson said. "I love this character a lot, and I want to make sure I've learned as much as I can from him before I let him go." 7:30 p.m., free. 510-649-1320 or PegasusBookstore.com

— *Stefanie Kalem*

LECTURES

Antonia Juhasz: "Black Tide" The journalist and author shares her new book about the oil trade. Wed., May 11, 7:30 p.m. Free. Moe's Books, 2476 Telegraph Ave., Berkeley. 510-849-2087. MoesBooks.com.

Arthur Blaustein: "Democracy Is Not a Spectator Sport" The [illegible] shares ideas from his new book on volunteer opportunities. Tue., May 10, 7 p.m. Free. Books Inc. Berkeley, 1760 Fourth St., Berkeley.

David Downie: "Quiet Corners of Rome" The travel writer presents his newest guidebook. Sat., May 7, 4 p.m. Free. Mrs. Dalloway's, 2904 College Ave., Berkeley. 510-704-8222. MrsDalloways.com.

Geneen Roth: "Lost and Found: Unexpected Revelations About Food and Money" The self-help author shares her new book, which focuses on "how emotional issues with money mirror those with food and dieting." Thu., May 5, 7 p.m. Free. Books Inc. Berkeley, 1760 Fourth St., Berkeley.

Khalid Abu [illegible]: Unifying Arab Awakening: Power of the People vs. The People in Power The [illegible] actor and filmmaker screens his new documentary about Middle Eastern politics, after which he offers commentary and answers questions about the current events. Thu., May 5, 8 p.m. Free. International House, 2299 Piedmont Ave., Berkeley. 510-642-9490.

Lawrence Diller: Remembering Ritalin: A Doctor and Generation Rx Reflect on Life and Psychiatric Drugs The psychiatrist discusses his new book about the long-term consequences of psychotropic ADD medication on the nation's children. Thu., May 5, 7:30 p.m. Free. Mrs. Dalloway's, 2904 College Ave., Berkeley. 510-704-8222. MrsDalloways.com.

Sunday Evening Meditation and Awareness Series Fifteen-week series of nonsectarian talks and meditations, facilitated by local authors and spiritual leader [illegible]. 7-9 p.m. Continues through June 12. $10 suggested. Berkeley Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, 1924 Cedar St., Berkeley. 510-841-4824. BUUF.org.

Susan Freinkel: "Plastic: A Toxic Love Story" The journalist discusses her new book, which is about modern society's relationship with plastic. Mon., May 9, 7 p.m. Free. A Great Good Place for Books, 6120 LaSalle Ave., Oakland. 510-339-8210. GreatGoodPlaceforBooks.com.

Who Do You Think You Are?: An Introduction to Genealogy Sat., May 7, 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Free. California Genealogical Society and Library, Breuner Building, Street Level, Oakland. 510-663-1358. CaliforniaAncestors.org.

LITERARY EVENTS

Aimee Bender Presenting her novel, *The Particular Sadness of Lemon Cake*. Wed., May 11, 7 p.m. Free. A Great Good Place for Books, 6120 LaSalle Ave., Oakland. 510-339-8210. GreatGoodPlaceforBooks.com.

Bay Area Poets Children Open Reading First Saturday of every month, 3-5 p.m. Free. Strawberry Creek Lodge, 1320 Addison St., Berkeley. 510-841-[illegible].

Bilingual Storytimes for Children Saturdays, 11:30 a.m. Free. Hayward Public Library, 835 C St., Hayward. 510-293-8685. Library.hayward-ca.gov.

Diane Kredensor Reading her children's book *Ollie and Moon*. Sat., May 7, 2 p.m. Free. Books Inc., 1344 Park St., Alameda. 510-522-2226. BooksInc.net.

Eugene Linden Sharing his new book *The Ragged Edge of the World*, which is about "his experiences of how Earth's [illegible] were yielded to [illegible] modernity." Mon., May 9, 7 p.m. Free. Books Inc., Berkeley, 1760 Fourth St., Berkeley.

[illegible] "Bringing It All Back Home: Greil Marcus on Bob Dylan, 1968-2010" The author (*Mystery Train*, *The Old Weird America*) reads from his writings on Dylan, discusses some of the singer-songwriter's [illegible] material, and plays [illegible]. Singer-songwriter [illegible] Heyman will also perform some Dylan [illegible]. Wed., May 11, 7:30 p.m. Free. Pegasus Books, 1855 Solano Ave., Berkeley. 510-525-6888.

[illegible] Reading from her novel, *Love and War*. Fri., May 13, 7:30 p.m. Free. Mrs. Dalloway's, 2904 College Ave., Berkeley. 510-704-8222. MrsDalloways.com.

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[illegible] David Young Allen

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PICKS

Sloane Crosley

New York City, Portugal, Paris, Alaska — wherever she goes, there **Sloane Crosley** is, armed with little more than self-deprecation, quite literally. The author of *I Was Told There'd Be Cake* and, now, ***How Did You Get This Number*** has a disability called severe temporal spatial defect, which renders math and maps and analog clocks total mysteries. Her new book wittily tracks her voyage into a fully neurotic adulthood; she'll read from it on Tuesday, May 10, at **Diesel** (5433 College Ave., Oakland). 7 p.m. free. 510-653-9965 or DieselBookstore.com. — *Stefanie Kalem*

Greil Marcus on Bob Dylan

The monthly literary-theater series **First Person Singular** returns, with a powerful must attraction. Legendary (and local) rock writer **Greil Marcus**, reading from the expanded new edition of ***The Old, Weird America***. First issued in 1997 as *Invisible Republic*, it's a lush, exhaustive chronicle of the storied late-Sixties recordings by Bob Dylan and the Band — many of which became *The Basement Tapes*. Marcus arrives to lead the band on Wednesday, May 11, at **Pegasus Solano** (1855 Solano Ave., Berkeley). 510-525-6888 or PegasusBookstore.com. — *S.K.*

David Downie

The guidebook ***Quiet Corners of Rome*** is your instruction manual for living *la dolce vita* along the less-beaten path. **David Downie** reveals hidden courtyards, cloisters, ruins, and gardens that remain on the down low for most tourists. Get the inside story on temples to Isis, hangouts of Goethe, and other top-secret spots on Saturday, May 7, at **Mrs. Dalloway's** (2904 College Ave., Berkeley). 4 p.m., free. 510-704-8222 or MrsDalloways.com. — *S.K.*

Geneen Roth

Bestselling *Women Food and God* author **Geneen Roth** lost her life savings to Bernie Madoff. "With the shock of losing our money, the veils ripped between worlds and I glimpsed another way of living." With humor and humility, Roth explores binge-purge patterns and other destructive financial cycles in ***Lost and Found***. She reads from the new book on Thursday, May 5, at **Books Inc.** (1760 Fourth St., Berkeley). 7 p.m. free. 510-525-7777 or BooksInc.net. — *S.K.*

Sloane Crosley

Literary Night at Julie's Aching to perform that powerful scene from your novel, screenplay? Need an audience to test the intro to your great American novel? Want to summon the spirit behind Shakespeare's sonnets? Then flock to Literary Night at Julie's Coffee and Tea Garden (1223 Park St., Alameda), which happens every third Thursday. Pieces can be original or not, and all genres are welcome. Free sign-ups start at 7 p.m.; readings at 7:30 p.m. 510-865-2385 or JuliesTea.com. Third Thursday of every month, 7 p.m., free. Julie's Coffee & Tea Garden, 1223 Park St., Alameda, 510-865-2385. JuliesTea.com.

Martinez Library Storytellers Second Tuesday of every month, 6:45 p.m., free. Martinez Library, 740 Court St., Martinez, 925-646-2898. www.contra-costa.lib.ca.us/[illegible]

Nathan Larson and Brad Bower Reading from their respective novels, *The Dewey Decimal System* and *Wingshooters*. Thu., May 5, 7:30 p.m., free. Pegasus Books Downtown, 2349 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley, 510-649-1320. PegasusBookstore.com.

Ann Hill, Katie Allsted and Mary Beth Phillips Presenting their group memoir, *The Music Choice: Three Women, Three Miracles, and a Ten-Year Journey of Discovery and Friendship*. Fri., May 6, 1 p.m., free. A Great Good Place for Books, 6120 LaSalle Ave., Oakland, 510-339-8210. GreatGoodPlace.IndieBound.com.

Paul Madonna The writer/artist [illegible] shares his new collection. Tue., May 10, 7:30 p.m., free. Moe's Books, 2476 Telegraph Ave., Berkeley, 510-849-2087. MoesBooks.com.

Pleasant Hill Library Book Talk Second Tuesday of every month, 6:30 p.m., free. Pleasant Hill Library, 1750 Oak Park Blvd., Pleasant Hill, 925-646-6434.

The Sweetwaters Book Group This month: *Kabul Beauty School: An American Woman Goes Behind the Veil* by Deborah Rodriguez. First Thursday of every month, 7-9 p.m., free. El Sobrante Library, 4191 Appian Way, El Sobrante, 510-374-3991. www.contra-costa.lib.ca.us/[illegible]

[illegible] Sharing her [illegible] *Midnight and the Meaning of Love*. Fri., May 6, 7 p.m., free. Books Inc., 1344 Park St., Alameda, 510-522-7717. BooksInc.net.

Sloane Crosley Reading and signing her collection of personal essays, *How Did You Get This Number*. Tue., May 10, 7 p.m., free. Diesel, A Bookstore, 5433 College Ave., Oakland, 510-653-9965. DieselBookstore.com.

Steve [illegible] Sharing his new young adult novel, *[illegible]*. Thu., May 5, 7 p.m., free. Books Inc., 1344 Park St., Alameda, 510-522-7717. BooksInc.net.

More Listings Online
Get info about dozens more literary events at EastBayExpress.com or m.EastBayExpress.com

Susane Colasanti Reading from her young-adult novel, *So Much Closer*. Tue., May 10, 7 p.m., free. A Great Good Place for Books, 6120 LaSalle Ave., Oakland, 510-339-8210. GreatGoodPlace.IndieBound.com.

William Deresiewicz and Karen Joy Fowler "A Jane Austen Panel" The two authors of *A Jane Austen Education: How Six Novels Taught Me About Love, Friendship, and the Things That Really Matter* and *The Jane Austen Book Club*, respectively, discuss Austen and her relationship to their own lives. Wed., May 11, 7 p.m., free. Books Inc. Berkeley, 1760 Fourth St., Berkeley.

PUBLIC INTEREST

[illegible] International Monthly Berkeley All are welcome. Second Monday of every month, 7:30 p.m., free. Diesel, A Bookstore, 5433 College Ave., Oakland, 510-653-9965. DieselBookstore.com.

Berkeley Metaphysical Toastmasters Club of Berkeley Public speaking club with a "metaphysical emphasis." First and third Thursday of every month, 6:45-8:45 p.m., free. St. John's Presbyterian Church, 2727 College Ave., Berkeley, 510-845-6830.

Elder's Club A group for older people interested in creating a support system and exploring conscious aging. Second and fourth Sunday of every month, 1:30-4 p.m., free. North Berkeley Senior Center, 1901 Hearst Ave., Berkeley, 510-981-5190.

Food Bank Workshop for Oakland Community Members An Alameda County Community Food Bank representative shows how to apply for food stamps. Times vary. Second Tuesday of every month, 2:30-4:30 p.m., free. Oakland Public Library, [illegible] St., [illegible], Oakland, 510-238-3480. OaklandLibrary.org.

Foster Care and Adoption Introductory Workshop Informational workshop about the process and the experience of adopting a child from foster care. Second Tuesday of every month, 6-8 p.m., free. AASK-Adopt a Special Kid, 8201 Edgewater Dr., Ste 103, Oakland, 510-553-1748 ext. 12. AASK.org.

Free Book Exchange Give and get free books of all genres. Saturdays, Sundays, 8 a.m.-6 p.m., free. Bay Area Free Book Exchange, 10520 San Pablo Ave., El Cerrito, 510-526-1940.

Sex Positive Discussion Group Wide group discussion, games, writing exercises, storytelling and more, focused on the craft of personal and societal sex positivity. Everyone welcome; activity supplies provided. Second Tuesday of every month, 8-10 p.m., free. Nabolom Bakery, 2708 Russell Ave., Berkeley, 510-223-8707. www.[illegible]

SPOKEN WORD

The Berkeley Poetry Slam Hosted by Charles Ellik, Gerry Fell. Music by 3 Blind Mice. Wednesdays, 8 p.m., $7. Starry Plough, 3101 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley, 510-841-2082. StarryPloughPub.com.

Last Word Poetry Series Poetry showcase and open mic. First Friday of every month, 7 p.m.; First Saturday of every month, 1 p.m., free. Nefeli Caffe, 1854 Euclid St., Berkeley, 510-841-6374.

Second Tuesdays Poetry Night Poetry readings featuring local poets followed by open mic. Second Tuesday of every month, 7-9 p.m., free. Albany Library, 1247 Marin Ave., Albany, 510-526-3720. ACLibrary.org.

Thursday of [illegible] She draws, paints, spins tales, and does gymnastics on horseback. Multitasker [illegible] reads her poetry at the Mediterraneum Caffe with [illegible], who [illegible] An open mic follows, hosted by [illegible] and [illegible]. 7 p.m. Thursdays, 8 p.m., free. [illegible], Mediterraneum Caffe, 2475 Telegraph Ave., Berkeley, 510-549-1128.

[illegible] Art [illegible] Night All presenters [illegible] will be allotted 3-5 minutes to tell their stories or present their opinions. Singing begins at 6:15. First and third Friday of every month, 6:30 p.m. [illegible] Cafe [illegible], 1370 [illegible], San Leandro, 510-381-9954.

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AQUARIUM AGE

ALL ARIES, ALL THE TIME

For the week of May 4-10, 2011

By Ralfee Finn

Minds are bold, hearts are strong, and vision is clear this week, so don't hesitate to put everything, including your body, into motion. The planets are aligned in a powerful formation that supports decisive action and rapid yet clear-headed responses. All of this translates into success in almost every endeavor, especially if you're willing to commit the muscle — physical as well as spiritual — toward whatever it takes to get the job done. There are no obvious obstacles other than the potential for over-extension, so don't take on more than you can handle just because you are afraid your opportunities will disappear. They won't. What's more, taking on too much could weigh you down. And it would be a shame to squander the week's brilliant astral energy with unnecessary baggage.

Once again the astral story is all about Aries — but this week Saturn loosens its grip, and as it lets go, that Aries fire is free to follow its bliss through an uninhibited Venus/Mercury/Jupiter/Mars conjunction. This is a powerful configuration that allows Aries the freedom to be direct and candid, two of its most prominent features. Bold, opinionated, and maybe just a little rash, Aries can always be counted on to make its point. Occasionally Aries errs on the side of subjective opinion, which skews its perspective toward the purely personal and renders it irrelevant. But absent individual bias, nothing beats the Aries knack for cutting to the chase with uncanny clarity. As Venus, Mercury, Jupiter, and Mars refract Aries candor, we can count on plenty of personal opinion. But we can also expect foresight and forethought. Use this signature to make plans that will bear fruit in the future.

Oddly, the combination of Mercury, Jupiter, and Mars often indicates the contemplation of marriage, so those of you on the fence about tying the knot might be moved into decisions about your amorous future. Those of you who are only thinking about making "the call" could find the urge for contact too strong to resist. Add Venus to the mix, and you may find yourself lost (or should I say found) in the presence of an irresistible attraction of mind and body. For those not inclined toward romance, Venus also provides the potential for artistic expression. Don't hesitate to put this energy to good use through a variety of creative modalities.

It's a good week to be completely honest with yourself about what you truly desire, not what you *should* want, but what makes your heart sing with joy. You could have a life-changing vision of what that bliss might be, or you could discover that where you are and what you are doing is exactly where you belong.

If you know your Ascendant and/or your Moon Sign, read that too.

ARIES This is a rich opportunity to gain insight into what you really want to accomplish, so don't squander it by focusing on what you don't have. Concentrate on what you want to create, and be sure to include what's needed to actualize your vision.

TAURUS Your personal pace is about to shift dramatically, and because it's faster than you can imagine, you need to prepare. Make sure you know where you are going, why you've chosen that direction, and how you want to get there.

GEMINI While the intensity of your commitment seems overwhelming, it doesn't look as if you will abandon your participation anytime soon. So rather than resist, relax into the flow and allow yourself to be moved by the collective stream.

CANCER You can win, but before you celebrate your victory, be sure you want to be the boss. There's nothing wrong with being the leader — it's actually an honor. But you must be available for the increased responsibility.

LEO Your relationship status isn't an issue. Focus on the idea of love in all its forms by having the courage to live from an open heart, and you'll discover what you need to be truly happy.

VIRGO Make a list of every necessary and unnecessary expense, so that you can see what you need and what you want. If you are completely forthcoming, you'll begin a process that will eventually lead to greater abundance.

LIBRA It's a two-piece consciousness puzzle: (1) Recognize your limitations — know what you can and cannot handle, and (2) Turn your known world upside down, drop your defenses, and acknowledge what you long for.

SCORPIO The workplace pace cranks up to an even higher level, which means you must make some very necessary adjustments to your personal stride. Just remember, rest is a necessary part of any training program.

SAGITTARIUS Put aside your anxiety — yes, I know that you worry, even if no one else does — and decide to focus on happiness instead. This is not an idiotic pursuit; you're expanding your capacity for joy.

CAPRICORN You're in the process of making several significant decisions, and while you're not in a hurry, you feel an urgency to get it done. Take life a day at a time and you'll make all the right moves.

AQUARIUS What would happen if you created an alter-ego that could write down all the things you think you can't say? Knowing when to hold back is an important skill, but it is also important to know when to speak the truth.

PISCES Buy a Lotto ticket — okay, buy two. But also know that your financial well-being isn't based on luck. It is founded on your ability to know your true value to the world — a value that cannot be measured in dollars and cents. ●

For More Info

Ralfee Finn specializes in Transformational Astrology. For readings, call 1-888-937-5264, write P.O. Box 343, New York, NY 10025, visit AquariumAge.com, or e-mail Ralfee@AquariumAge.com. Copyright © 2011 by Ralfee Finn

The pizzas, salads, tacos, pastas, and desserts are endless at Pepe's. Chris Duffey

PIG OUT AT PEPE'S PIZZA BUFFET

It costs less than round-trip BART fare from Berkeley to San Francisco

By Anneli Rufus

Sometimes it's okay to stuff yourself. Not as a practice. Not as a policy. Not three times a day or even every day, but now and then, to eat as much as you want, then a little more, then maybe (think of all the starving children everywhere) a little more. It's fun.

It is not crass. Nor is it necessarily the superhighway to obesity. Stuffing oneself can be as nuanced as any other activity. At **Pepe's** you can stuff yourself with salad *and/or* soup *and/or* pizza *and/or* pasta *and/or* nachos *and/or* tacos *and/or* dessert, each for its own unique nutritional effect.

Open since March, Pepe's is a pizza buffet. "A True Pizza Buffet," declares its menu and a giant printed sign near its front counter, as if it were not to be confused with some kind of false pizza buffet. A squeaky-clean stainless-steel self-serve area starts with two soups: one vegetarian, the other not. Like everything else here, the soups are made in house.

The salad bar offers a vat of iceberg lettuce (for traditionalists), another vat of assorted greens, and a dozen-plus vats bearing salad components from chickpeas to pineapple to jicama to hard-boiled eggs, six dressings (including exotic ginger-sesame), and not one but two forms of beet: sliced and julienned. Feel deluxe yet? Behold potato salad, macaroni salad, pizza: five with meat toppings, five without, plus an extravagant bonus: butter-brushed sweet pizza drizzled with chocolate, caramel, marshmallow sauces, multicolored sprinkles, and chocolate chips. Doughnut-delicious yet earthy, sophisticated as befits pizza, it's what cerebral urban circus clowns might eat. All of Pepe's pizzas are replaced and refreshed every fifteen minutes. Ditto six pastas with ever-rotating sauces.

Pepe's Pizza
2516B Durant Ave., Berkeley
510-644-9599 or PepesBuffet.com
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Reservations accepted

Sample Menu

Pizza Buffet	$6.99
Pasta Combo	$7.99
Wings Combo	$6.99
Salad Combo	$8.99
Pizza to Go	$9.59

A chip-stuffed, spigoted nacho machine lets diners scoop, then squirt. A taco bar expands the majesty with beef, boiled beans, sour cream, and many types of salsa, chopped veggies, and shredded cheese. Cold-drink machines disgorge twelve different beverages from root beer to peach-flavored iced green tea. Soft-serve ice cream comes in two flavors.

Imagine all this, as much of it as you desire and more, for just $6.99. And plans are underway to add more Mexican options over the next few months and expand Pepe's hours until 2 a.m.

So this might be the perfect restaurant. Come on, now. How is it not? Because it's self-service? Some diners prefer not to be fussed over by servers, which feels fake anyway. At buffets, you don't have to tip. Do you think buffets are lowbrow? Fine. Order off the menu à la carte. (It costs more though.)

A **US Foodservice** culinary chef advises Pepe's staff. They use 5,000 pounds of whole-milk mozzarella every month. The soups are a bit salty, but Pepe's is a big cut above typical bargain buffet fare.

On both of our visits, the iceberg lettuce was ebulliently crunchy; on one visit, a few brown leaves marred the mixed-lettuce vat. The blue-cheese dressing sports chunks so big they block the squeeze-bottle's spout. A surprise winner: the potato salad is so fresh and multitextured that it could make a meal all by itself. Six standard pizza types — including pepperoni, spinach, olive, tomato, and plain — are augmented by ever-changing specials such as feta, barbecued chicken, and jalapeño. We tried many types and found them crispy-chewy, generously cheesed, thickish-crusted — half an inch high — and more or less artisanal. The pasta sauces, too, are cooked with care, especially an Alfredo with sautéed mushroom slabs the size of poker chips.

You can build your own 'scene at the dozen-options taco bar. But subvert the dominant paradigm. One of the beauties of buffets is that they let you employ ingenuity. Festoon tortilla chips from the nacho machine with taco toppings for actual nachos. Supersize each pizza slice with taco toppings: tomato, olives, and cheese. Why not make taco salad with chopped veggies, beans, cheese, chips, lettuce, and dressing: preferably Thousand Island? Ice cream plus root beer equals a root-beer float.

As big as a bowling alley, set below street level a block south of UC Berkeley, Pepe's seats more than two hundred. Even with seventy seats filled, a place this size feels nearly empty.

Matching the plates and bowls and workers' uniforms: ladybug red — or is it *Stanford* red? — tables with neat pale wooden chairs offset freshly painted yet sadly snot-green ceilings. A wall-size flatscreen TV airs sports nonstop, which is distracting. Ample rugs absorb much of the sound here — so, ironically, a meal at Pepe's is easier on the ears than at those trendy smaller and potentially more intimate restaurants (**Burma Superstar** and **Homeroom**, I'm looking at you) that pride themselves on an ear-splitting din. Having the sports turned down or off would be ideal, but a mega-TV helps lone diners feel less alone, and makes most everyone feel more at home.

That's yet another beauty of buffets. Ambling back and forth, choosing however much we want of what we want, is how we eat at home — but at buffets, we need not cook nor clean. At buffets, it's not a cliché: Within reason, you can have it your way.

A young Mandarin-speaking couple watch a worker set out two piping-hot new pizzas, then eagerly serve themselves. This is how you might imagine restaurants in the future on space stations: international, unlimited, ship-shape, and cheap.

Pepe's disproves the meme that poverty leads to obesity because (as that meme says) the poor cannot afford nutritious food. All-you-can-eat at Pepe's costs less than round-trip BART fare from Berkeley to San Francisco — less than one hour's minimum-wage pay. All-you-can-eat at Pepe's can be low-fat, low-carb, vegetarian, vegan, gluten-free, or even totally raw. Or not. This place is evidence of the abundance of our system, the economy of scale. As long as Pepe's and its kind exist, excuses can't. ●

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[illegible] 2319 Santa Clara Ave., Alameda. 510-521-5800. (California Cuisine) $$$
[illegible] House 3201 Central Ave., [illegible] 510-769-8933 (Diner) $
[illegible] 1348 Park St., Alameda. 510-522-8200 (Southeast Asian) $$
[illegible] 2334 Encinal Ave. [illegible] 510-521-1800 (Vietnamese) $-$$
[illegible] 1930 Main St., Alameda. 510-[illegible] (Balinese) $$
[illegible] 2533 Park St., [illegible] 510-521-0400 (Cuban) $$
The [illegible] 1313 Park St. [illegible] 510-769-0811. (Japanese/Small Plates) $
[illegible] Table 2249 A Encinal Ave., Alameda. 510-914-6179. (American/Breakfast/Brunch/California Cuisine) $-$$
Ole's Waffle Shop 1507 Park St. [illegible] 510-522-9498. (American/Breakfast/Brunch/Diner) $
Pappo 2320 Central Ave. Alameda, 510-337-9100 (California Cuisine) $$$
[illegible] Good Eats 1363 Park St., Alameda. 510-521-2800. (American/Italian/Eclectic/Exotic) $$
Sushi King 1160 Park St., [illegible] 510-523-8888. (Japanese/Sushi) $$

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[illegible] 1878 Solano Ave., Berkeley. 510-526-4373. (Indian/Pakistani/Organic/Sustainable) $$
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Bistro [illegible] 1151 Solano Ave., Albany. 510-528-5881 (American/Southeast Asian/Cajun/Creole/Italian/Burgers/Sandwiches) $$
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Christopher's Nothing Fancy Cafe 1019 San Pablo Ave. Albany. 510-526-4185. (Mexican/Southwestern) $-$$
Kensington Circus Pub 389 Colusa Ave., Kensington. 510-524-8814. (English/Irish/Bars & Clubs) $$
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[illegible] 1329 Gilman St. Albany. 510-527-9838 [illegible] (California Cuisine/French/Organic/Sustainable) $$$
Lanesplitter Pizza to Go 1051 San Pablo Ave. Albany. 510-527-8375 (Pizza)
[illegible] 1235 San Pablo Ave., Albany. 510-526-0225 (American/Breakfast/Brunch/Organic/Sustainable) $-$$
[illegible] [illegible] Oak View Ave. Kensington. 510-[illegible] (Brunch/Organic/Sustainable/California Cuisine) $$-$$$
[illegible] [illegible] Solano Ave., Albany. 510-527-4111 (French) $$
[illegible] & Berkeley Pizza 1853 Solano Ave., Berkeley. 510-525-5950. (Pizza) $-$$
[illegible] House [illegible] San Pablo Ave. Albany. 510-527-6452. (Middle Eastern) $

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Andy and Cindy's Thai [illegible] Saturday Farmers Market, Berkeley. 510-836-5290 (Organic/Sustainable/Thai/Burmese/Vegetarian/Vegan) $
[illegible] 2448 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley. 510-841-4035 (Pizza) $
Au Coquelet Cafe 2000 University Ave. Berkeley. 510-845-0433. (American/Burgers/Sandwiches/Coffeehouses/Breakfast/Brunch/Eclectic/Exotic) $
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The [illegible] 2415 Shattuck St., Berkeley. 510-643-8323 ([illegible]) $
[illegible] Deli 2333 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley. 510-548-5544 (Deli) $
[illegible] 2160 University Ave., Berkeley. 510-888-[illegible] (American)
[illegible] 2868 [illegible] Way Berkeley. 510-225-[illegible] (American/Breakfast/Brunch/California Cuisine/Organic/Sustainable) $$$
[illegible] Center Street at Martin Luther King Jr. Way Berkeley. (Mexican/Vegetarian/Vegan) $
[illegible] 2288 [illegible] St. Berkeley. 510-[illegible] (Organic/Sustainable/[illegible]) $$
Gelateria Naia 2106 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley. 510-[illegible] (Dessert/Ice Cream) $
[illegible] [illegible] Bancroft Way Berkeley. 510-540-5212 ([illegible]) $
Henry's Publick House & Grille 2600 Durant Ave. Berkeley. 510-[illegible] (California Cuisine/New American) $$
Ippuku 2130 Center St. Berkeley. 510-665-1969 (Japanese/Sushi/Tapas/Small Plates/Organic/Sustainable/Wine Bars) $$
Jayakarta 2026 University Ave., Berkeley. 510-841-7044. (Southeast Asian) $-$$
Jupiter 2181 Shattuck Ave. Berkeley. 510-843-8277 (Brewpub/Pizza/Bars & Clubs) $$
Long Life Vegi House 2129 University Ave., Berkeley. 510-845-6072 (Chinese/Organic/Sustainable/Seafood/Vegetarian/Vegan) $
La [illegible] 2377 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley. 510-843-1535. (Breakfast/Brunch/French) $$-$$$
[illegible] 2272 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley. 510-845-8424 (Thai/Burmese) $
[illegible] [illegible] University Ave., Berkeley. 510-540-8888 (Southeast Asian/Thai/Burmese) $$
[illegible] [illegible] University Ave. Berkeley. 510-[illegible] (Japanese/Sushi) $
Razan's Organic Kitchen 2119 Kittredge St. Berkeley. 510-486-0449 (Middle Eastern/Organic/Sustainable/Vegetarian/Vegan) $
The [illegible] Cafe [illegible] Bancroft Way, Berkeley, 510-845-[illegible] (American) $$
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Thai Delight [illegible] 1700 Shattuck Ave. Berkeley. 510-[illegible] (Organic/Sustainable/Southeast Asian/Thai/Burmese) $-$$
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Tuk Tuk Thai Cafe [illegible] Shattuck Ave. Berkeley. 510-540-[illegible] (Southeast Asian/Thai/Seafood) $-$$
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[illegible] [illegible] Ave. Berkeley. 510-[illegible] (Chinese/Indian/Pakistani/[illegible]) $-$$
[illegible] North Berkeley Farmers' Market, Berkeley. (Mexican/Vegetarian/Vegan) $
[illegible] [illegible] Cedar St. Berkeley. 510-[illegible] (French/Organic/Sustainable) $-$$
The [illegible] [illegible] Shattuck Ave. Berkeley. 510-[illegible] (Indian/Pakistani) $$
[illegible] [illegible] Solano Ave. Berkeley. 510-527-[illegible] (Vegetarian/Vegan/American) $
Philz Coffee 1600 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley. 510-875-9343 (Coffeehouses) $
[illegible] Taqueria [illegible] Shattuck Ave., Berkeley. 510-540-[illegible] (Mexican) $
Top dog 1503 Hearst Ave. Berkeley. 510-843-1241 (American/Burgers/Sandwiches/Organic/Sustainable) $

BERKELEY-SOUTH

[illegible] 2350 Bancroft Way Berkeley. 510-647-2300 (California Cuisine/[illegible]/Sustainable) $$$
Addie's Pizza Pie 3290 Adeline St., Berkeley. 510-547-4100 (Pizza/American/Dessert/Ice Cream) $-$$
Andy and Cindy's Thai [illegible] [illegible] Berkeley Farmers Market, Berkeley. 510-[illegible] (Organic/Sustainable/Thai/Burmese/Vegetarian/Vegan) $
House of India [illegible] Sacramento St., Berkeley. 510-[illegible] (Indian/Pakistani/Organic/Sustainable) $-$$
Cafe [illegible] [illegible] Durant Ave. Berkeley. 510-548-[illegible] (California Cuisine/Organic/Sustainable/Vegetarian/Vegan) $
Cafe [illegible] [illegible] Shattuck Ave., Berkeley. 510-[illegible] (South American) $$
[illegible] [illegible] Telegraph Ave., 2nd floor Berkeley. 510-[illegible] (Caribbean) $$
La [illegible] [illegible] College Ave. Berkeley. 510-704-[illegible] (Mexican) $
[illegible] Cafe [illegible] Adeline St., Berkeley. 510-[illegible] (Bakery/Coffeehouses) $-$$
[illegible] Berkeley Farmers Market, Berkeley. (Mexican/Vegetarian/Vegan) $
[illegible] [illegible] Ward St. Berkeley. 510-[illegible] (Japanese/Sushi) $$
[illegible] [illegible] Telegraph Ave. Berkeley. 510-548-1274 (Japanese/Sushi) $$-$$$
Rick & Ann's Restaurant and Catering 2922 Domingo Ave. Berkeley. 510-649-8538. (American/Breakfast/Brunch) $$
[illegible] 2914 College Ave., Berkeley. 510-[illegible] (Chinese) $-$$
[illegible] [illegible] Telegraph Ave. Berkeley. 510-[illegible] (American) $
Sweet Adeline Bakeshop 3350 Adeline St Berkeley. 510-[illegible] (Bakery/Coffeehouses) $-$$
Top dog 2534 Durant Ave., Berkeley. 510-843-5967 (American/Burgers/Sandwiches/Organic/Sustainable) $
The Vault 3250 Adeline St., Berkeley. 510-[illegible] (American/Breakfast/Brunch/California Cuisine/Coffeehouses) $-$$

BERKELEY-WEST & EMERYVILLE

[illegible] [illegible] Grayson St., Berkeley. 510-[illegible] (California Cuisine) $$
[illegible] Bakery and [illegible] [illegible] San Pablo Ave. Emeryville. 510-547-[illegible]

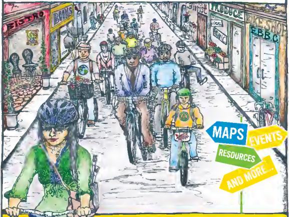
EAST BAY BICYCLE COALITION

thrive
KAISER PERMANENTE.

511

BIKE TO WORK DAY GUIDE

MAY 12, 2011


BISTRO
BOOKS
PRODUCE
LOCAL
BIKE SHOP
EBBC
MAPS
EVENTS
RESOURCES
AND MORE...

Your guide to a fun & healthy commute

BIKE TO WORK!

We love riding around town!

Thursday, May 12

Visit our "Energizer Stations" for free Peet's Coffee, Cheese Board pastries and gift-bags of commuter goodies!

★ At our main store, 1988 Shattuck at University,

★ At the corner of Milvia and Virginia, right by the school!

From around 7:40 am. on. . Goodies and pastries while they last! Riding to work is fun!

To celebrate Bike to Work Day, we put a couple of our favorite town bikes on sale!

[illegible] Sport

Reynolds 520 steel frame and carbon fiber fork soaks up the bumps for a fast and comfy do-anything ride

Fun to ride around town and still awesome for long rides in the hills... even a popular bike to t[illegible] on or for multi-day charity rides

[illegible] $669 – save $75

[illegible]EK 7000

One of our favorite utility bikes, the mighty T[illegible] 7000 will rock you and your groceries all over town. Fun and affordable!

On Sale for $325 (reg $370)

Sale runs all week! Monday [illegible]

MISSING LINK BICYCLE CO-OP

1988 SHATTUCK at UNIVERSITY, BERKELEY 510-843-7471

[illegible]

Presented by

BIKE TO WORK DAY

MAY 12, 2011

- Pedal and win a new bike
- Celebrate with us at the Bike Away from Work party
- Shop & Save: Bike to Market Day is May 21

www.ebbc.org/btwd

Bike to Work Day started in the Bay Area in 1994 when the East Bay Bicycle Coalition and the City of Oakland got together to host the first morning energizer station and reward cyclists for commuting by bike. Since then the event sure has grown. In the past three years participation increased 250% in the East Bay as more and more commuters seek active transportation choices. Bike to Work Day and Bike Month are part of the growing bike movement sweeping the East Bay.

EBBC is a non-profit, bicycle advocacy organization working to improve your bike commute in Alameda and Contra Costa Counties. We advocate for bike lanes, secure bike parking, and increased funding for bike projects. We also have an extensive bicycle safety education program, provide valet bike parking at events and of course coordinate Bike to Work Day every year.

EAST BAY BICYCLE COALITION

EBBC.ORG

Your source for all things Bike to Work Day

EAST BAY EXPRESS NOVARTIS HAYWARD

WHY BIKE?

Welcome to the 18th Annual Bike to Work Day here in the East Bay This guide will give you everything you need to know to get ready to bike on Thursday May 12th to have a great commute that day and to enjoy a host of fun bicycling activities and events all month long

The East Bay Bicycle Coalition started the San Francisco Bay Area's very first Bike to Work Day celebration right here in Oakland 18 years ago Today this celebration includes the whole East Bay: from Fremont to Richmond from Emeryville to Antioch from Berkeley to Livermore with over a hundred Energizer Stations staffed with enthusiastic volunteers ready to fuel you on your way to work with coffee snacks and a goodie bag full of great resources to help you make every day Bike to Work Day

This guide that you hold in your hands is the start to a great Bike Month for you Would you like to feel more confident on the road? Check out our bicycle safety classes listed on page 9 New to bicycling and looking for advice and resources? Find more information about our 1000 New Cyclists Campaign on page 9 Want to find out where you can get coffee and goodies on your trip to work on May 12th? We have a map of every Energizer Station in the East Bay starting on page 6 And we have lots more great Bike Month activities for you starting on page 4

So why do we celebrate Bike to Work Day each year? Or to put it more simply why bike? Here in the East Bay we are blessed with some of the best biking in the world There is no better place to head out for a weekend joy ride with our beautiful Regional Parks, quiet backroads and green rolling hills

Our East Bay cities are also blessed with flat terrain easy access to BART and public transit commercial districts with great places to stop in the morning for coffee or a pastry More and more people are biking to work every day Over the past three years the numbers of people biking on Bike to Work Day have almost tripled Bike to Work Day is a great day to discover just how safe fun and convenient it is to bike to work

Come out and join me this year on May 12th in biking to work for the first or the 18th time Once you experience the simple joys of powering yourself to work to school or on errands on your own two wheels discovering new corners of our thriving East Bay neighborhoods along the way I think you will be hooked

Renee Rivera
Executive Director
East Bay Bicycle Coalition

no emissions vehicle
Bike to work [every] day
mike's bikes

2161 University Ave in Berkeley
(510) 845-BIKE
all-new store! 1615 N California Blvd in Walnut Creek
(925) 954-1490
Proudly supporting the East Bay Bicycle Coalition – MikesBikes.com – 9 local Nor-Cal shops

LAW OFFICE OF
DANIEL H.
ROSE
BICYCLE INJURY ATTORNEYS

Over 25 Years Experience

Proven Track Record Representing
Bicycle Accident Victims

Professional Integrity & Attentive Personal Service

Call for Free Personal Consultation With An Attorney
415-946-8900
101 California Street, Suite 2450, San Francisco
danrose@danroselaw.com
www.danroselaw.com

Can't carry it
on 2 wheels?
Try sharing 4 of ours.
CITY CAR SHARE
A Bay Area nonprofit

Join at CityCarShare.org
Use promo code **BTWD11** to get $30 in driving credit for any NEW personal account

bike station

Now serving
Downtown Berkeley, Ashby Bart, Embarcadero Bart, Fruitvale Bart
- free valet parking (Berkeley & Fruitvale)
- 24-hour parking (Berkeley, Ashby, Embarcadero)
- Repairs & accessories (Berkeley & Fruitvale)
- Rental bikes & trailers (Berkeley)

for more info, check us out at bartbikestation.com

ALAMEDA
BICYCLE

1522 Park Street, Alameda
510-522-0070
See us on FACEBOOK

Bike to Work Day
Visit our Energizer Stations at both Lafayette & Rockridge BART Stations on May 12 from 7-9 am.
HANKANDFRANKBICYCLES.COM
Hank & Frank Bicycles
ESTABLISHED IN 1925

Oakland
6030 College Ave
(510) 654 BIKE

Lafayette
3377 Mt Diablo Blvd
(925) 283 BIKE

Shop locally from the Bay Area's oldest locally owned bike shop! Since 1925!

BIKE EVENTS

MAY ART MURMUR
Friday, May 6. Free Event.
6-9pm
Uptown Oakland
Bike to Oakland's hippest night out on the town. Enjoy art, bike exhibits and good times. Bike valet at Rock, Paper, Scissors

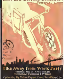
BERKELEY SUMMER KICK-OFF AND BIKE RODEO
Saturday, May 7. Free Event.
11am-3pm
San Pablo Park
Bike fun for the whole family with rodeos, helmet decorations, free bike repairs, bike tours

BIKE SAN LEANDRO
Saturday, May 6. Free Event.
1-3:30pm
Downtown San Leandro, Washington & Parrot St
Family Cycling Workshop and interactive bike activities for the kids

BIKE TO SCHOOL DAYS
May 9-20 Free Event
various times in the morning
For more information, go to www.ebbc.org/energizer2011

BIKE TO WORK DAY
Thursday, May 12. Free Event.
Morning and afternoon
Energizer Stations listed on page 6
register at: www.youcanbikethere.org

OAKLAND PANCAKE BREAKFAST AND CITY COUNCIL PRESS EVENT
Thursday, May 12. Free Event.
7-9am
Frank Ogawa Plaza, Downtown Oakland
Join the Oakland City Council as they ride into work and celebrate Bike to Work Day with thousands of cyclists in Downtown Oakland


EAST BAY BICYCLE COALITION
Presents
Bike Away from Work Party

BIKE AWAY FROM WORK PARTY
Thursday, May 12. Free Event.
5:30-8:30pm
Old Oakland, Washington & 9th St
Rides, games, awards, prizes, good food & drink, entertainment and the music of the Muddy Roses
Sponsored by

MAJOR TAYLOR: *"THE FASTEST BIKE RACER IN THE WORLD"*
Friday, May 13. Free Event
6-8pm
Slide show
presented by Andrew Richie
author of the Major Taylor Biography
Nevin Community Center, Richmond

BIKE-IN MOVIE

Friday, May 13 $5 Fee
7:30-10:00pm
Trumer Pils Brewery, Berkeley
Movie *With My Own Two Wheels*
An evening of bike shorts, brewery tours, good food & drinks and our feature presentation.

EAST BAY BIKE PARTY

Friday, May 13. Free Event
7:30-10pm
The East Bay Bike Party follows up on Bike to Work Day with a celebratory ride through the streets of the East Bay. Full details at: eastbaybikeparty.wordpress.com/Oakland

TOUR DE FAIR

Saturday, May 14
11am-2pm Free Event.
Saul's Cafe, 1475 Shattuck Ave, Berkeley
Learn where to buy fair trade goods in Berkeley and meet like-minded supporters of fair trade products. Register at: tourdefair.eventbrite.com/Berkeley

REI BIKE FEST

Saturday, May 14. Free Event.
10am-2pm
Discover how easy and fun it is to spend more time on your bike. Cycling vendors and specialists and non-profit groups to help get you started.

REI Berkeley: 1338 San Pablo Ave
REI Brentwood: 2475 Sand Creek Road

BIKE TO MARKET DAY

Saturday, May 21. Free Event
All day at participating markets
Shop by bike and save! Many markets around the East Bay participate in Bike to Market Day by offering discounts, free goodies and coupons to customers who come by bike. Just be ready to show your bike gloves, leg strap, helmet, etc. For locations, go to: www.ebbc.org/market

BIKE-IN MOVIE

Tuesday, May 24. $5 Fee
7-9pm
Rialto Cinemas Cerrito,
10070 San Pablo Ave El Cerrito
Movie: Boying Bicycle
Bike valet by Richmond Spokes and drawing for great prizes!

no emissions vehicle

Bike to work every day

mike's bikes

2161 University Ave in Berkeley
(510) 845-BIKE

all-new store! 1615 N California Blvd in Walnut Creek
(925) 954-1490

Proudly supporting the East Bay Bicycle Coalition
MikesBikes.com
9 local Nor-Cal shops

BERKWOOD HEDGE SCHOOL

Stop by our Bike to Work/Bike to School Day Energizer Station on Thursday, May 12th between 7 and 9 am.

- Kindergarten-Fifth Grade
- Developmentally appropriate teaching
- Strong academic program
- Enrichment in Spanish, environmental sciences, visual arts, music, drama & PE
- Diverse community and multi-cultural curriculum
- First Alameda County school to be certified a Bay Area Green Business

1809 Bancroft Way, Berkeley, CA 94703
www.berkwood.org

A LEADER IN DEVELOPMENTAL EDUCATION

ENERGIZER STATIONS ALAMEDA COUNTY

ALAMEDA

Bay Farm Bridge
on the wooden walkway
6:30-9:00am
BikeAlameda

Alameda/Oakland Ferry
2990 Main Street (on board)
6:30-9:00am
BikeAlameda

Harbor Bay Ferry
1141 Harbor Bay Parkway
(on board)
6:30-9:00am
BikeAlameda

Hawthorne Suites
1628 Webster @ Pacific Ave.
6:30-9:00am
BikeAlameda

Peet's Coffee
1365 Park Street
6:30-9:00am
BikeAlameda

Barcelona
2314 Santa Clara
5:00-7:00 pm
BikeAlameda

Havana Restaurant
5:00-7:00 pm
BikeAlameda

ALBANY

Marin & Ohlone Greenway
7:00-9:00am
Albany Strollers & Rollers

Ocean View School
1000 Jackson St
7:30-8:30am
Cycles of Change

Marin School
1001 Santa Fe Ave
7:30-8:30am
Cycles of Change

Cornell School
920 Talbot Ave
7:30-8:30am
Cycles of Change

Albany Middle School
7:30-8:30am
City of Albany

ASHLAND

Bay Fair BART Station
6:00-9:00am
Alameda County Public Works

BERKELEY

Berkwood Hedge School
1809 Bancroft Way
7:00-9:00am
Berkwood Hedge School

Russell & Telegraph
7:00-9:00am
Bicycle-Friendly Berkeley Coalition

Ashby BART Station
7:00-9:00am
Bicycle-Friendly Berkeley Coalition

Malcolm X School
Ashby Ave & King St
7:30-8:30am
Cycles of Change

Rosa Parks School
at 9th & University
7:00-9:00am
Bicycle-Friendly Berkeley Coalition

Oxford & Hearst
7:00-9:00am
Bicycle-Friendly Berkeley Coalition

Berkeley Bike Station
all day
Alameda Bicycles

Sproul Plaza
Bancroft & Telegraph
7:00-10:00am
UC Berkeley

Berkeley Arts Magnet
Virginia & Milvia
7:00-9:00am
Missing Link/Cycles of Change

North Berkeley BART
6:30-9:00am
REI Berkeley

Berkeley Bike Ped Bridge
7:00-9:00am
Waterside Workshop

Kaiser Regional Lab Complex
1750 2nd street
6:00-9:00am
Kaiser Permanente

Missing Link Bike Co-op
Shattuck at University
all day
Missing Link

CASTRO VALLEY

Castro Valley BART
6:00-9:00am
Alameda County Public Works

DUBLIN/ PLEASANTON

West Dublin BART Station
6:30-9:00am
Workday

Pleasanton/Dublin BART station
6:30-9:00am
Hacienda Business Park/City of Dublin

EMERYVILLE

Powell & Frontage Road
7:00-9:30am
City of Emeryville

North Town
65th St & Overland Ave
7:00-9:30am
Cliff Bar

40th St Transit Hub
7:00-9:30am
City of Emeryville

Novartis
Hollis & 53rd
7:00-9:30am
Novartis

FREMONT

Fremont BART Station
7:00-9:00am
City of Fremont

GE, Mission Court & Warm Springs
6:30-9:00am
GE Sensing

Paseo Padre & Driscoll
6:30-9:00am
GE Sensing

Fremont Medical Center
Stevenson and Paseo Padre
7:00-9:00am
Kaiser Permanente

HAYWARD

Ruus Elementary
28027 Dickens Ave
7:30-8:45am
Hayward School District

Treeview Elementary
30565 Treeview St
7:15-8:05am
Hayward School District

Tyrrell Elementary
27000 Tyrrell Ave
7:45-8:45am
Hayward School District

Schafer Park
28268 Flamingo Avenue
7:30-8:30am
Hayward School District

Hayward Medical Center
Hesperian and Tennyson
7:00-9:00am
Kaiser Permanente

OAKLAND

Fruitvale Bike Station
all day
Alameda Bicycles

Oakland City Hall
14th & Broadway
7:00am-6:00pm
Oakland Public Works
East Bay Bicycle Coalition
Walk Oakland Bike Oakland

Actual Cafe
San Pablo & Alcatraz
7:00-9:00am
Actual Café

14th and Lakeside
7:00-9:00am
Walk Oakland Bike Oakland

Broadway/27th
7:00-9:00am
Walk Oakland Bike Oakland

rideSFO
Mandela Pkwy & 18th St
7-9am

2289 International Blvd
7:30-10:00am
Cycles of Change

MacArthur BART
6:30-9:00am
Tip Top Bike Shop

Tip-Top Bike Shop
4800A Telegraph Ave
5:00-7:00 pm
Tip Top Bike Shop

CALTRANS
111 Grand Ave
7:00-9:00am
CALTRANS

Kaiser Permanente Fabiola Building
3800 Howe Street
7:00-9:30am
Kaiser Permanente

Laney College
Fallon Street at 9th
7:30am to 1:30pm
Sustainable Peralta Initiative

Bret Harte Middle School
3700 Coolidge Ave
7:30-8:30am
Cycles of Change

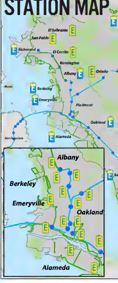
Roosevelt Middle School
Corner of 20th Ave & E 20th Street
7:30-8:30am
Cycles of Change

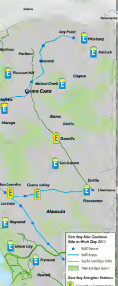
Elina Brewer School
3748 14th Ave.
7:30-8:30am
Cycles of Change

Rockridge BART Station
7:00-9:00am
Hank & Frank's Bicycles

West Oakland BART Station
7:00-9:00am
The Crucible

ENERGIZER STATION MAP




Solano
Sacramento
Bay Point
Pittsburg
Antioch
Martinez
Pacheco
Concord
Pleasant Hill
Clayton
Walnut Creek
Contra Costa
Lafayette
Moraga
Alamo
Diablo
Danville
San Ramon
Dublin
San Leandro
Castro Valley
Livermore
Lorenzo
Pleasanton
Alameda
Hayward
Union City
Fremont
Newark
East Bay Bike Coalition
Bike to Work Day 2011
BART Stations
BART Routes
Bay Trail and Major Paths
Parks and Open Spaces
East Bay Energizer Stations
Cities with an Energizer Station
Cities with multiple Energizer Stations

Jack London Square Ferry
7:00-9:15am
Jack London Square

Kaiser Permanente
1950 Franklin
between 19th & 20th
7:00 -9:00am
Kaiser Permanente

Kaiser Permanente 1800
Harrison at 17th St
7:00 -9:00am
Kaiser Permanente

SAN LEANDRO

San Leandro BART station
7:00-9:00am
OSIsoft

SAN LORENZO

San Lorenzo High Green Academy
50 E. Lewelling Blvd.
8:00-8:30am
Cycles of Change

Manor Middle School
7:45-8:15am
Cycles of Change

Grant Elementary
7:00-9:00am
Alameda County Public Works

UNION CITY

Union City Landing
Eigenbrodt Way
at Volpey Way
7:00-9:00am
Kaiser Permanente

Union City Medical Office Buildings
Union City Blvd
& Kohoutek Way
7:00 -9:00am
Kaiser Permanente

Union City BART
7:00-9:00am
City of Union City

ENERGIZER STATIONS CONTRA COSTA COUNTY

ANTIOCH

Mokelumne Trail
at Sutter Delta Hospital
6:00- 9:30am
and 4:00 6:00 pm
City of Antioch

Corner of Deer Valley Rd and Wellness Way
6:00am 9:30am
Kaiser Antioch Medical Center

Somersville/Buchanan,
7 9am
Tri Delta Transit

BRENTWOOD

Sand Creek Road/ Shady Willow Lane
7:00-9:00am
Brentwood REI

City Park
2nd and Oak Street
7:00-9:00am
Delta Pedalers

Corner of Rosebrook Terrace and Central Blvd.
7:45-9:00am
Ron Nunn Elementary School

DANVILLE

Iron Horse Trail
behind Lunardi's
6:30-9:00am
Town of Danville and the San Ramon Valley Street Smarts Program

EL CERRITO

Bike Lockers
at the Ohlone Greenway
(across from the El Cerrito Plaza BART)
7:00-9:00am
City of El Cerrito

El Cerrito High School
7:30-9am

EL SOBRANTE

3820 San Pablo Dam Road
(both sides of the street
7:00-9:00am
and 4:00 6:00pm
The Pedaler Bike Shop

LAFAYETTE

Lafayette Plaza Park
(corner of Mt. Diablo Blvd and Moraga Rd.)
6:00-8:30am
City of Lafayette-Bike/ Pedestrian Advisory Committee

Lafayette Plaza Park
3:00-5:00pm
Lafayette Chamber of Commerce

MARTINEZ

Capitol Corridor Station
5:15am-9:30am
Richard Anderson

4797 Imhoff Place
7:30-8:30am
Central Contra Costa Sanitary District

ORINDA

Moraga Way/ Brookwood Rd
(Beverages and More parking lot)
6:00 9:00am
City of Orinda

PITTSBURG

DeAnza Trail at Railroad
6:30-8:30am
City of Pittsburg

LMC Campus – Quad Area
9:00am-1:00pm
Los Medanos College

PLEASANT HILL

Pleasant Hill Contra Costa Center BART
6:30 9:00am
REI Concord

Iron Horse Trail
just north of Pleasant Hill BART Station
4:00-6:30pm
Genworth

Contra Costa Canal Trail/ Golf Club Road
4:30pm-6:30pm
DVC

Pleasant Hill/Contra Costa Centre BART station
(near paid area)
4:00 6:30pm
Contra Costa Transportation Authority

RICHMOND

Bay Trail at Marina Bay Park
6:00 9:00am

914 Marina Way South
at Main Entrance
7:00-9:00am
Kaiser Permanente Regional Laboratory

Richmond BART Station
near bike lockers in upper courtyard
6:00 9:00am
City of Richmond

The Greenway
Ohio Ave and 15th Street
6:00-9:00am
Richmond Spokes

Greenway Trail
near Home Depot
MacDonald/San Pablo Ave
6:30 9:00am
City of Richmond

Richmond High School,
7:30 8:15am
Cycles of Change

Richmond Field Station
7:00-9:00am
UC Berkeley

SAN PABLO

13052 San Pablo Ave
7:00-10:00am
CARS (Complete Auto Repair Service)

Contra Costa College
7:00-9:00am

SAN RAMON

Iron Horse Trail/ Crow Canyon Rd
6:00-9:00am
City of San Ramon and PG&E

Iron Horse Trail/ Bollinger Canyon
6:00am 6:00pm
Bishop Ranch Transportation Center

WALNUT CREEK

South Broadway / Newell
6:30-9:00am
Whole Foods Market

Iron Horse Trail/ Canal Trail Crossing
6:30-9:00am
County Connection and 511 Contra Costa/Renaissance ClubSport 4:00 7:00pm

Ygnacio Valley Rd/ N. California corner (BART)
6:00 9:00am
City of Walnut Creek

2901 Ygnacio Valley Rd/ Breeze Way
6:30-9:00am
Encina Bike Shop

North Wiget on the Canal Trail
7:30 9:30am
Renaissance ClubSport

1931 First Ave, Lindsay Wildlife Museum
8:00am to noon
Lindsay Wildlife Museum

NOTE

Some elementary and middle schools host energizer stations on days other than May 12. Check with your local school

SAVE $$$!

JOIN THE BIKE COALITION TODAY!

Bike to Work Day is brought to you by the East Bay Bicycle Coalition We work to make every day Bike to Work Day by making your bike commute safer and more inviting.

Please support us by becoming a member today!

Name: ______________________

Address: ______________________

City ____________ State ______ Zip ________

Email ______________________

Phone: ______________________

Mail to EBBC PO Box 1736 Oakland CA 94604

Join Online at www.ebbc.com/donate

Photo courtesy of BABC

- ☐ Sustaining $30
- ☐ Half Century/Household $50
- ☐ Century $100
- ☐ Double Century $200
- ☐ Other generous donation
- ☐ I'm interested in volunteering!
- ☐ I'd like to save paper and read *rideOn* online
- ☐ Please don't share my name with other groups

Membership benefits include

- Discounts at over 60 bike shops and other local businesses
- Subscription to our newsletter *rideOn*
- Social events with other cyclists
- Helping to improve conditions for all cyclists

THE FEELING OF BIKE TO WORK DAY – ALL YEAR ROUND!

GET INVOLVED IN THE 1000 NEW CYCLISTS CAMPAIGN

On Bike to Work Day thousands of people flood the streets of the East Bay on their bikes The sheer numbers of people riding just make the streets feel safer As you pull up at a stop light with two or three other cyclists there is a feeling of camaraderie and cars seem to give you a little more space

Help us create that feeling on East Bay streets every day of the year! The East Bay Bicycle Coalition started the 1000 New Cyclists to get more people on their bikes everyday – to get to work or school run errands and see friends. Why? Because more people on the streets on their bikes makes biking safer and more fun for everyone!

One of our 1000 New Cyclists is Kymba A Hearn who just started bicycling regularly this spring says this about why she chooses to bike

> *When I bike to work I can set my own schedule and I save money and that makes me feel good Even better I get almost an hour of low impact exercise per day For Free! Can t beat that offer!*

BY JOINING THIS CAMPAIGN YOU WILL GET

Kymba A Hearn of Emeryville enjoys the health and freedom of cycling her 4-mile commute.

- A mentor or bike buddy to help you plan your commute
- On-line discussion groups
- A wealth of on-line time to make your ride easier and more fun
- Lunchtime commute tips workshops
- Inspirational stories
- Workshops for new riders
- The chance to meet other cyclists at community events
- And more

What the campaign needs is you! By signing up to "Join the 1000" (for free!) you will join a vibrant community of new and experienced cyclists committed to making bicycling a safe healthy fun part of commuting and everyday life Visit the website to learn more (www 1000newcyclists.org) and add your name to this growing movement at 1000newcyclists.org/join the 1000

+1000
NEW CYCLISTS

BIKE SAFETY CLASSES

FREE, FUN AND ENTERTAINING!

Adult classes teach how to safely share the road with traffic and Family Cycling Workshops teach kids and parents basic safety maneuvers followed by a short neighborhood ride. All classes taught by certified instructors.

ADULT BIKE SAFETY CLASSES 14 YEARS OR OLDER

Oakland
Kaiser Oakland Medical Center
Wednesday, May 4, 2011
6:00-9:30pm

Alameda
First Congregational Church of Alameda
Saturday, May 28, 2011
1:00-4:30pm

Union City
Kennedy Community Center
Tuesday, July 12, 2011
6:00-9:30pm

Fruitvale (en español)
César E. Chávez Branch Library
3301 E. 12th Street, Suite 271
Jueves, 26 de mayo de 2011
12:30-4:00pm

FAMILY CYCLING WORKSHOPS

San Leandro
Parott St & Washington, Downtown San Leandro
Sunday, May 15, 2011
1:00-3:30pm
Bike San Leandro Festival

Fremont
Fremont Washington High School
Saurday, May 14, 2011
10:00am-12:30pm

> "I feel much more confident and relaxed on the road, now that I know how to position myself and how to coexist with drivers."
>
> —**Ellen Gould,**
> *Oakland resident*

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COMMUTERS OF THE YEAR

Contra Costa County

AL LIM

"Our man Al commutes on his bikes including fixed gears in all weather conditions and against many challenges — including darkness, strong head winds and several difficult intersections," says Michael Thomas, Al's cycling companion and the person who nominated Al for Contra Costa Bike Commuter of the Year. "Humility is true about everything Al does and because of this he is an inspiration to all who know him."

Every day, Al's commute takes him from his home in Brentwood on the far east side of the State Route 4 Bypass, westward along the Delta De Anza Trail, to the west side of Bay Point, where Al works as the general manager of Criterion Catalysts & Technologies, making cleaner petroleum-based products. An employee at the plant had told Al that bicycle commuting was not considered acceptable by his previous employer. But since Al was doing it every day, the employee began bicycling to work, too. "When our staff saw that their boss bicycled to work, it showed them that it was OK to do," says Al.

Al and his wife Mai have three kids, all of whom bicycle. Al also runs an orphaned bike garage, accepting all bikes that his friends have abandoned over the years. He fixes many up and has given several away to friends in need of a bike. Because of his commitment to bicycling and his inspiration to co-workers, friends and family, Al Lim is our Bike Commuter of the Year in Contra Costa County.

Alameda County

JASON HOLLICK

Jason Hollick, a Berkeley resident and 5th grade student at Longfellow Middle School in West Berkeley, is possibly the youngest nominee ever for the East Bay Bicycle Coalition's Bicycle Commuter of the Year Award.

Four years ago when Jason was in the 2nd grade at Berkwood Hedge School he participated in Bike to School Day. He was so excited about his ride to school that he began a persistent and passionate household campaign to turn his family into bicycle commuters.

At first, Jason's parents, Sharon and Jay, doubted that they could get their family, including Jason's then 4-year old brother Justin, safely from their Grizzly Peak neighborhood down the hill to work and school, and then back up again at the end of the day. But Jason's desire to ride bikes, breathe fresh air and help out the environment just didn't go away. After a year of Jason's nonstop campaigning, Sharon and Jay made the commitment to commute by bicycle. Today the Hollicks ride together as a family in the morning to drop off Justin (now 8-years-old) at Berkwood Hedge School and then to drop off Jason at Longfellow Middle School. Finally Jason's parents arrive at UC Berkeley where they are both professors in the Biology Department. Collectively, the family commutes daily anywhere from four to eight miles roundtrip. Jason is an inspiring model of how youth have the power to help their families and communities recognize how bicycling can improve health and the environment. The East Bay Bicycle Coalition is proud to award Jason the Alameda County Bicycle Commuter of the Year award.

Our award winners will receive their awards and "fabulous" prizes at the Bike Away from Work Party, 5:30-8:30pm in Old Oakland on Bike to Work Day. Join us for the celebration and to honor Al and Jason.

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The East Bay Bicycle Coalition thanks all of our generous sponsors, supporters and coalition partners who are helping make Bike to Work Day 2011 an amazing event this year

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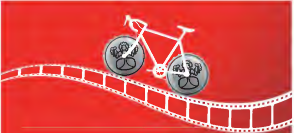

PEDAL YOUR OWN TWO WHEELS TO WATCH

“WITH MY OWN TWO WHEELS”

Join Trumer Pils and the East Bay Bike Coalition on Friday the 13th for a night of bikes, beers and the big screen as we gather at Trumer Brauerei to watch “With My Own Two Wheels,” a feature length film that follows five individuals who count on the power of the bicycle to change the world one pedal stroke at a time

WHEN:

Friday, May 13, 2011
7:30p.m. Doors Open
7:45p.m. Tour of Trumer Brauerei
8:30p.m. Films Begin

WHERE:

Trumer Brauerei (outside courtyard)
1404 4th St. Berkeley, CA

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WITH MY OWN TWO WHEELS

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RECENTLY REVIEWED

BEC's Bistro

2271 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley 510-647-1790. This rambling two-story bar-restaurant-nightspot still has the look and vibe of an Irish pub (the building housed Beckett's for a decade), but the entirely revamped menu features organic/sustainable California-Mediterranean specialties, some of them underdone but many of them impressive. Try the delicate flatbread pizzas, the seasonal farmers' market soup, and the roasted chicken with Brussels sprouts, and don't miss the apple tart for dessert. House cocktails are on the sweet and insubstantial side; nightly DJs make conversation difficult. $$$

Luca Ristorante Italiano

2057 San Pablo Ave., Berkeley 510-649-9718. Raised in Molise, southeast of Rome, Luca's owner-chef Luca Rossi cooks dishes representing many parts of his native land, from breaded-and-pan-fried chicken Milanese to yolky zabaglione to sparkly-smooth penne with vodka sauce. Lunchtime sandwiches include a juicy multilayered and surprisingly filling eggplant parmigiana and a sunk-em-quick sub starring hefty beef-and-pork meatballs. Customize your pasta meal all day by mixing and matching your choice of nine different sauces with six different noodle types. Order at the register then wait to be served at a cozy wooden table that commands sweeping views of San Pablo Avenue through floor-to-ceiling windows and into the open kitchen where flames flare from Rossi's flying pans. $

Homeroom

400 40th St., Oakland, 510-597-0400. Co-owners Erin Wade and Allison Arevalo wanted to open a restaurant together — but, due to their limited experience, felt the restaurant should have a narrow focus. They settled on macaroni and cheese. At Homeroom, it comes in several different savvy styles augmented with such novelties as jalapeño pepper, Vermont white Cheddar, Cypress Grove fresh goat's-milk chèvre, Niman Ranch bacon and hot dogs, and even potato chips. A vegan version is a mac (not) made with no cheese at all, not even vegan cheese, but a smooth mélange of tofu, soy milk, soy sauce, and yeast. Beer and wine pairings are suggested for each type of mac. Homeroom's loyal contingent of fans (long lines usually precede being seated) apparently don't mind the dizzyingly high noise level. $

Doña Tomás

5004 Telegraph Ave., Oakland 510-450-0522. Temescal's venerable nouveau-Mexican/California cuisine hotspot is as fun and festive as ever, especially on the inviting back patio, where the artisan margaritas taste especially delicious. The upscale menu offerings tend to lack the zest and deep-down satisfaction one associates with classic and casual Mexican cookery, but for the most part they're perfectly tasty nonetheless. Get the flan for dessert. Impressive tequila list. $$$

Cafe Yesterday

1122 University Ave., Berkeley 510-981-9609. Cafe Yesterday houses Berkeley's most contemporaneous cereal bar. In this mellow, newly built, split-level space, vinyl records spin retro sounds over a comfy couch and gleaming wooden tables set magnificently far apart. Go wholesome (oats, fruit, seeds, Special K, granola, nuts) or straight into sugar shock (Fruity Pebbles, Cap'n Crunch, Cocoa Puffs, caramel sauce, chocolate chips, Gummi Bears). A well-rounded menu also includes salads, sandwiches, bagels, burritos, house-baked pastries, and fair-trade coffee. A portion of the nonprofit cafe's proceeds is earmarked for programs benefiting local artists and the homeless. $

Westside Cafe

2570 Ninth St., Berkeley 510-845-4852. This longtime West Berkeley cafe/bakery/hangout is now open for dinner with a full bar, an upscale (yet affordable) California-cuisine bill of fare, and a kitchen that often lives up to the menu's aspirations. Begin with the extra-comforting Aztec hominy-avocado soup, try the tender leg of lamb or the marvelous spicy-creamy pulled pork with polenta as entrée tone, and finish things off with the simple yet satisfying fruit oatmeal crisp. Brief wine list, perfunctory surroundings. $$$

R&C

(Bakery/Pizza/Vegetarian/Vegan) $

Bette's Oceanview Diner 1807 Fourth St., Berkeley, 510-644-3230 (American/Diner/Organic/Sustainable) $$

Bowman's Restaurant 708 University Ave., Berkeley, 510-841-0980 (American) $

Cafe Aquarius 1201 65th St., Emeryville 510-655-7182 (Breakfast/Brunch/American/Coffeehouses)

Cafe Yesterday 1122 University Ave., Berkeley (Breakfast/Brunch/American) $

Casa Latina 1805 San Pablo Ave., Berkeley, 510-558-717 (Bakery/Mexican) $

[illegible] 1827 University Ave., Berkeley, 510-841-5300 (Japanese/Sushi) $$

Everett & Jones Barbeque 1955 San Pablo Ave., Berkeley, (510) (Barbecue) $$

Gaumenkitzel 2121 San Pablo Ave., Berkeley, 510-647-5016 (German/Austrian) $$

India Sweet and Spices 814 University Ave., Berkeley, 510-704-3200 (Bakery/Indian/Pakistani) $

Indus Village 1920 San Pablo Ave., Berkeley, 510-549-9999 (Indian/Pakistani/Kosher/Halal) $

Jimmy Bean's 1290 Sixth St., Berkeley, 510-528-3435 (Breakfast/Brunch/California Cuisine/Organic/Sustainable) $$

Juan's Place 941 Carleton St., Berkeley, 510-845-6904 (Mexican) $ $$

Kabana 1106 University Ave., Berkeley, 510-845-3956 (Indian/Pakistani/Kosher/Halal) $

Lanesplitter Pizza and Pub 2033 San Pablo Ave., Berkeley, 510-845-1652 (Pizza/Art Galleries) $

Lanesplitter Pizza and Pub 3645 San Pablo Ave., Emeryville 510-594-0400 (Pizza) $

Luca Ristorante Italiano 2057 San Pablo Ave., Berkeley, 510-649-9718 (Italian) $

Priya Indian Cuisine 2972 San Pablo Ave., Berkeley, 510-644-2011 (Indian/Pakistani) $ $$

Rudy's Can't Fail Cafe 4081 Hollis St., Emeryville 510-594-1221 (American/Beer) $ $$

[illegible] 3027 San Pablo Ave., Emeryville 510-547-9738 (Southern/Soul Food) $$

[illegible] Kabob and Deli 598 University Ave., Berkeley, 510-486-0807 (Deli/Seafood) $

Sea Salt 2512 San Pablo Ave., Berkeley, 510-883-1720 (Californian/Organic/Sustainable/Seafood) $$-$$$

Skates on the Bay 100 Seawall Dr., Berkeley, 510-549-1900 (American/Seafood) $$

Trader Vic's 9 Anchor Dr., Emeryville, 510-653-3400 (Asian Fusion/American/Caribbean/Hawaiian/Seafood) $$$-$$$$

Westside Bakery Cafe 2570 Ninth St., Berkeley, 510-845-4852 (Bakery/Breakfast/Brunch/California Cuisine) $$$

Zut! 1820 Fourth St., Berkeley, 510-644-0444 (Greek/Turkish/California Cuisine/French/Italian/Moroccan/Organic/Sustainable/Pizza/Spanish) $$

EL CERRITO, RICHMOND & NORTH

[illegible] 11390 San Pablo Ave., El Cerrito, 510-525-8035 (Mexican) $

Cooks Hot Pot City 3288 Pablo St., Richmond, 510-[illegible]24-6688 (Chinese) $-$$

[illegible] Chinese Restaurant 3288A Pablo St., Richmond, 510-525-3888 (Chinese/Seafood) $-$$$

The Dead Fish 20000 San Pablo Ave., Crockett, 510-787-3001 (American/Seafood) $$$-$$$$

Kaiwa-Ya Ramen 10544-10546 San Pablo Ave., El Cerrito, 510-526-1978 (Japanese/Sushi) $-$$

Krung Thep 1274 San Pablo Ave., El Cerrito, 510-[illegible] (Southeast Asian/Thai/Vietnamese) $-$$

Pho Hoa Thai 12000 San Pablo Ave., Richmond, 510-235-1223 (Vietnamese) $-$$

Sweet Gourmet delivery only, El Cerrito, 510-[illegible] (Asian/Pizza) $$

SaiVaiThai Thai Restaurant 12300 San Pablo Ave., Richmond, 510-232-5842 (Southeast Asian/Thai/Burmese) $-$$

Up & Under 2 West Richmond Ave., Point Richmond, 510-778-1113 (American/Burgers/Sandwiches/Breweries/Brewpubs/English/Irish/California Cuisine) $$

HAYWARD & SAN LEANDRO

A Sweet Cafe 1213 A St., Hayward, 510-537-2558 (Korean) $$

[illegible] Indian Garden 29130 Mission Blvd., Hayward, 510-276-7556 (Indian) $-$$

[illegible] 1709 MacArthur Blvd., San Leandro, 510-605-[illegible] (Asian Fusion/Tapas/Small Plates) $$$

[illegible] & Jones [illegible] 296 A Street, Hayward, (510) 58[illegible]-3222 (Barbecue) $$

Grand Taipei 25[illegible] Hesperian Blvd., Hayward, 510-785-8123 (Chinese) $$

La Piñata 904 B St., Hayward, 510-538-9967 (Mexican) $$

La Piñata 2499 [illegible] St., San Leandro, 510-357-9302 (Mexican) $$

Manila Garden 29500-B Hesperian Blvd., Hayward, 510-670-0727 (Filipino/Southeast Asian) $-$$

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LAST CALL

Thinking Small

Rockridge's Toast Wine Lounge is a refuge for busy parents and limited-production wines.

The owners of the new **Toast Wine Lounge** (5900 College Ave., Oakland) met ten years ago while walking their Labradors down the road near **Hardy Park**. They became immediate friends, both considering food and wine a necessity rather than a hobby.

Time went by and **Heather Sittig**, 36, a local realtor, and **Kristen Polley**, 36, a wedding, family, and food photographer, found themselves wheeling babies round the streets, lamenting the need for a comfortable wine bar where they could chat with babes in tow. They spent many hours dreaming, plotting, and planning this imaginary bar while sipping wine by the fire and conferring with their trusted friends, whom they call their Board of Directors.

When San Francisco Dancewear moved out of its storefront at the corner of College Avenue and Chabot Road after twenty years, the women saw potential in the bright space and outdoor seating area and secured the place last December 1. They started with an initial $17,000 pledged through the online funding platform **Kickstarter**.

Their aim was to make Toast a relaxed and comfortable community space that welcomed children — a wine bar to lure even the keenest oenophiles, but with no pretentiousness. The wine chosen to go with the food — all small plates — is sourced from small producing vineyards, the limited production meaning that wines would be constantly rotating with a sense of newness and adventure. Their slogan: Drink More Wine.

Four friends and I gathered at one of the shop's organically swervy redwood tables. Earlier in the afternoon, bar manager **Todd O'Leary**, formerly a wine rep and front-of-house at Perbacco in San Francisco's Financial District, had recommended three food-wine combinations. We tried them all.

First, he suggested pairing the red **Wohlmuth** Blaufrankisch (2007, $10/glass) from Austria, which he described as an unusual grape — minerally and lean with cherry fruit — with the earthiness of the mushroom escabeche dish, as it would not overwhelm. We did find the wine minerally, and my friend Mike said it was loamy with a touch of tobacco with a nice, yet brief finish.

The white **Bokisch** Albarino (2009, $8/glass), from a small family vineyard in Lodi, is known for its vibrant bouquet, which O'Leary selected to complement the saltiness of the Prosciutto dish. Mike found it to have a great nose, crisp and lemony, and I could sniff a hint of starfruit.

Without food, we tried a bottle of rosé, the **Sans Liege** Grenache Mourvedre (2009, $36/bottle) from California's Central Coast. All five of us thought it tasted too much like fruit juice.

Shypoke Charbono (2008, $12/glass) from Calistoga used to be a wine routinely made by California vintners, but was slowly replaced by the more fashionable Cabernets. O'Leary described it as a low-alcohol Zin. It was nicely peppery and went well with the spicy lamb balls and the short ribs with butternut squash purée.

The best quality for value were the two wines on tap, with the better being the **Andrew Lane** CabSav Gamay (2008, $9/glass) from Rutherford — pleasant, round, and full.

— Jody Brettkelly

jbrettkelly@gmail.com

ROC

The Medicine Cabin 825 B St., Hayward, 510-538-9111 (American/Diner) $
Restaurant 1472 B St., Hayward, 510-583-9744 (California Cuisine/Seafood) $$$
Zoom Sushi 477 E. 14th St., San Leandro, 510-357-3848 (Japanese/Sushi) $-$$
Val's Burgers 2185 Kelly St., Hayward, 510-889-8125 (American/Diner) $
Vi's Restaurant 377 Parrott St., San Leandro, 510-351-8800 (Vietnamese) $$

OAKLAND-DOWNTOWN & JACK LONDON SQ

Battambang Restaurant 850 Broadway, Oakland, 510-839-8815 (Cambodian/Laotian/Seafood/Southeast Asian/Vegetarian/Vegan) $-$$
La Borinqueña Mex-icatessen 582 Seventh St., Oakland, 510-444-9954 (Mexican) $-$$
Breads of India 948 Clay St., Oakland, 510-834-7684 (Indian/Pakistani) $-$$
Brown Sugar Kitchen 2534 Mandela Parkway, Oakland, 510-839-7685 (Southern/Soul Food) $$
Caffè 817 817 Washington St., Oakland, 510-271-7965 (Coffeehouses/California Cuisine/Organic/Sustainable) $-$$
Cam Huong Deli 920 Webster St., Oakland, 510-444-8800 (Southeast Asian/Vietnamese) $
Chop Bar 247 Fourth St., Oakland, 510-834-2467 (Burgers/Sandwiches/Breakfast/Brunch/American/New American) $$
Dim Sum Cafe 331 8th St., Oakland, 510-[illegible]-6223 (Chinese) $
Encuentro 202 2nd St., Oakland, 510-832-0403 (Wine Bar/Tapas/Small Plates/Vegetarian/Vegan) $$
Everett & Jones Barbeque 126 Broadway, Oakland, 510-663-2350 (Barbecue) $$
Flora 1900 Telegraph Ave., Oakland, 510-286-0100 (California Cuisine/New American) $$-$$$
Golden Lotus Vegetarian Restaurant 1301 Franklin St., Oakland, 510-893-0383 (Chinese/Southeast Asian/Thai/Burmese/Vegetarian/Vegan/Vietnamese) $
Huynh 388 15th St., Oakland, 510-[illegible]-5238 (Vietnamese) $$
Legendary Palace 708 Franklin St., Oakland, 510-663-9188 (Chinese) $-$$
Levende East 827 Washington St., Oakland, 510-835-5585 (California Cuisine) $$$
[illegible] 488 9th St., Oakland, 510-839-4340 (Eclectic/Exotic/Tapas/Small Plates/Organic/Sustainable/Bars & Clubs) $$$
Luka's Taproom & Lounge 2221 Broadway, Oakland, 510-451-4677 (Belgian/California Cuisine/French/Bars & Clubs/New American) $$-$$$
[illegible] 2442 Webster St., Oakland, 510-238-1100 (American/Asian Fusion/Tapas/Small Plates/Bars & Clubs/Dance Clubs) $$-$$$
[illegible] 2442 Oakland St., Oakland, 510-238-8224 (French/Italian/American/New American) $$$
Ozumo Oakland 2251 Broadway Ave., Oakland, 510-286-9866 (Asian Fusion/Japanese/Sushi/Tapas/Small Plates) $$-$$$$
Restaurant Peony 388 Ninth St., Oakland, 510-286-8866 (Chinese) $$$$
Spice Monkey 1628 Webster St., Oakland, 510-746-0111 (California Cuisine) $$
Spices 3 369 12th St., Oakland, 510-625-8889 (Chinese) $$
Restaurant Autentico Mexicano 488 8th St., Oakland, 510-444-3344 (Mexican/Tapas/Small Plates) $$$
Top Dog 499 14th St., Suite 17, Oakland, 510-625-8060 (American/Burgers/Sandwiches/Organic/Sustainable) $
Uncle Willie's Bar-B-que and Fish 614 14th St., Oakland, 510-465-9200 (Barbecue) $-$$
Vo's Restaurant 59 Grand Ave., Oakland, 510-465-4888 (Vietnamese) $$
[illegible] Restaurant 808 Oakland St., Oakland, 510-839-2868 (Chinese) $

OAKLAND-EAST

[illegible] Restaurant 3731 International Blvd., Oakland, 510-534-4795 (Mexican) $
Golden Garden 2100 8th Ave., Oakland, 510-[illegible]-6009 (Cambodian/Laotian/Southeast Asian/Thai/Burmese) $
Los Cocos 1449 Fruitvale Ave., Oakland, 510-536-3870 (Central American/Salvadoran) $
[illegible] Restaurant 4806 [illegible], Oakland, 510-261-8259 (Mexican) $-$$
Everett & Jones Barbeque 2676 Fruitvale Ave., Oakland, (510) 533-0900 (Barbecue) $$
Huong Que Cafe 1220 7th Ave., Oakland, 510-835-8488 (Southeast Asian/Vietnamese) $
Nieves Cinco de Mayo 3241 #2 E. 12th St., Oakland, 510-533-0798 (Dessert/Ice Cream) $
El Ojo de Agua 3532 E. 12th St., Oakland, (Mexican) $
Pho Ao Sen 299 International Blvd., Oakland, 510-839-0821 (Southeast Asian/Vietnamese) $
Pho Hoa Hiep 2?? International Blvd., Oakland, 510-434-0188 (Southeast Asian, Vietnamese) $-$$
Pho Hoa Lao 129 International Blvd., Oakland, 510-451-8888 (Southeast Asian/Vietnamese) $
Tacos El Sol Corner of International Blvd. and High St., Oakland, no phone. (Mexican) $
Tanjia 4905 Telegraph Avenue, Oakland, 510-653-8691 (African/Moroccan/Spanish) $$$
Taqueria San Jose 3433 International Blvd., Oakland, 510-533-5348 (Mexican) $
Taqueria Sinaloa 2138 International Blvd., Oakland, 510-535-1206 (Mexican) $

Two Openings and a Re-opening

Plus the latest on Daniel Patterson's new venture

By Ellen Cushing

Jack London restaurant-bar **Sweet Jimmie's** officially reopened last Friday, five days after a shooting on the premises left two dead and four wounded. In an interview, owner **David Ward** emphasized that the shooting was a "fluke," but that the restaurant had nonetheless increased security in the days since the re-opening. Ward also said that he and his partners haven't seen a significant drop in business in the wake of the tragedy. Meanwhile, the Oakland Police Department and Crime Stoppers are offering a $40,000 reward for anyone with information that leads to the killer's arrest.

Locanda da Eva's Former Home to Be Filled

The folks behind adorably named Piedmont Hill tapas-y place **Nibblers Eatery and Wine Bar** are opening a new "farm to fork" restaurant in the space most recently occupied by (dearly departed) **Locanda da Eva**, which lasted only four months before folding in November. The new restaurant, opening sometime this summer at 2826 Telegraph Avenue, will be called **Origen** and will focus on New American smallish plates made from locally-sourced, sustainably grown ingredients.

Toast Toasts its First Week in Business

Kid-friendly Rockridge wine bar **Toast Wine Lounge** officially opened for business at 5900 College Ave., in the space vacated by San Francisco Dancewear. According to co-owner **Kristin Foley**, business has been running smoothly thus far. "We didn't have any hiccups and have been astounded by how seamlessly our opening went," she wrote in an e-mail. Toast has 30 wines by the glass, red wine on tap, and a smallish tapas menu; see this week's Last Call for (much) more.

Table Scraps

Mmm — **Daniel Patterson** and his partners have apparently nailed down a concept (family-style and approachable, with communal tables, outdoor seating, and room for seventy people) and a construction start date (sometime this month) for their long-anticipated Jack London Square restaurant, though they still have neither a name nor a head chef. … Oakland's **Oasmo** is now offering a prix fixe Sunday brunch menu. … And in tangential food/pop-culture news: The guy who plays Ted Mosby on *How I Met Your Mother* is apparently friends with the people who run the local raw restaurant chain **Cafe Gratitude**. Said he in a recent CBS 5 video segment: "you just feel a vibe of love and goodness when you walk in there." ●

Send tips to Ellen.Cushing@EastBayExpress.com

FOOD & WINE

CULINARY & WINE

Dinners Locavore Wine Club Dinner Meet, mingle with local vintners and taste their wines, along with a seasonal dinner. Tuesdays, 7:30 p.m., $70. Rootwise Locavore Wine Club Studio, 2807 Seventh St., Suite A, Berkeley.

Pork Roots Crop Swap First Saturday of every month, 11 a.m., free. North Oakland Farmer's Market, Arlington Market Room Parking Lot, Oakland.

FARMERS' MARKETS

Alameda Farmers' Market Tuesdays, 9:30 a.m.-1 p.m., free. Webster St. (at Haight Ave.), Webster St., Alameda.

[illegible] Farmers' Market Happens every Wednesday 3-7 p.m. 510-548-3377. Fall, Thursday of every month, 3-7 p.m. Continues through Oct. 5. 510-548-3317.

Bayfair Kaiser Farmers' Market Saturdays, 9 a.m.-1 p.m., free. Bayfair Center, 15555 E. 14th St., San Leandro. 510-351-5000. BayfairMall.com.

Berkeley Market Saturdays, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., free. Berkeley Adult School, 1702 San Pablo Ave., Berkeley.

Children's Hospital Farmers' Market Tuesdays, 2-7 p.m. Children's Hospital & Research Center Oakland, 747 52nd St., Oakland.

Emeryville Farmers' Market Thursdays, 11:30 a.m.-3 p.m. Emeryville City Hall, 1333 Park Ave., Emeryville.

Farm Fresh Market/Community Farmers' Market Wednesdays, 3-7:30 p.m., 510-848-1704. EcologyCenter.org. Albany Community Center, San Pablo Park, 2800 Park St., Berkeley, 510-[illegible]. [illegible]

Fruitvale Farmers' Market Sundays, 10 a.m.-3 p.m., free. 510-535-6900. Fruitvale Village, 3401 E. 12th St. (at Fruitvale BART), Oakland, 510-535-6900. UnityCouncil.org.

Grand Lake Farmers' Market Saturdays, 9 a.m.-2 p.m. free. 415-472-6100. Splash Pad Park, Grand Ave. and Lakeshore, Oakland, 510-238-1213. OaklandNet.com/Parks/Parks/Default.asp

Kaiser Permanente Hayward Farmers' Market Wednesdays, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., free. Kaiser Hayward, 27400 Hesperian Blvd., Hayward.

Kaiser Permanente Oakland Farmers' Market Fridays, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., free. Kaiser Oakland, 3801 Howe St., Oakland.

Kensington Farmers' Market Sundays, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., free. www.kensingtonfarmersmarket.org/. Colusa Circle, at the Colusa Circle, Kensington.

Laurel Market Farmers' Market Saturdays, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Laurel District Farmers Market, 3573 MacArthur Blvd., Oakland.

North Berkeley Farmers' Market Breads, specialty foods, all-organic flowers and more for sale, plus special programs, free events. Thursdays, 3-7 p.m., free admission. 510-548-3333. EcologyCenter.org. Shattuck Ave. at Rose St., Berkeley.

Market Coast Jack Market Square Farmers' Market Sundays, 9 a.m.-2 p.m., free. Jack London Square, 55 Broadway, Oakland.

Richmond Farmers' Market Fridays, 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Richmond Farmers Market, 24th St. & Barrett Ave., Richmond.

Richmond Farmer's Market Fridays, 8 a.m.-5 p.m., free. Richmond Farmers Market, 24th St. & Barrett Ave., Richmond.

Saturday Berkeley Farmers' Market Saturdays, 10 a.m.-3 p.m., free. 510-548-3333. EcologyCenter.org. MLK Civic Center Park, 2151 Martin Luther King Jr. Way, Berkeley, 510-981-5150. CI.Berkeley.Ca.Us/ContentDisplay.aspx?id=12700

Temescal Farmers' Market Sundays, 9 a.m.-1 p.m., free. DMV Parking Lot, 5300 Claremont Ave., Oakland.

Tuesday Berkeley Farmers' Market Tuesdays, 2-7 p.m., free. 510-548-3333. EcologyCenter.org. Derby St., (at Martin Luther King Jr. Way), Berkeley. ●

La Bella Loca 3410 International Blvd., Oakland, 510-532-7105 (Mexican) $

OAKLAND-PIEDMONT, GRAND LAKE & EAST

Market 423 Piedmont Ave. #2, Oakland, 510-[illegible] (Italian/Burgers/Sandwiches/Wine Bar) $$$

The Alley 3325 Grand Ave., Oakland, 510-444-8505 (Bars & Clubs/American/Burgers/Sandwiches/Steak House) $$

Andy and Cindy's Thai Cuisine Saturday Grand Lake Farmers Market, Oakland, 415-812-6400 (Organic/Sustainable/Thai/Summer/Vegetarian/Vegan) $

[illegible] Farmers' [illegible] 4[illegible] Piedmont Ave., Oakland, 510-[illegible] (American/Burgers/Sandwiches) $

Boy Wolf Cafe and Restaurant 5[illegible] Piedmont Ave., Oakland, 510-[illegible] (California Cuisine/Organic/Sustainable/New American) $$$

Brilliance 4238 Park Blvd., Oakland, 510-[illegible] (Italian/Breakfast/Brunch/Organic/Sustainable/Wine Bar) $$$

Blackberry Bistro 4240 Park Blvd., Oakland, 510-336-1088 (Breakfast/Brunch/Southern/Soul Food) $ $$

Cleo Market 4125 Piedmont Ave., Oakland, 510-845-1034 (French) $$

Dinners Fish 3314 Piedmont Ave., Oakland, 510-645-1587 (Japanese/Sushi) $$

Oakland 4[illegible] Piedmont Ave., Oakland, 510-547-3444 (French) $-$$

Jong Ga House 372 Grand Ave., Oakland, 510-444-7658 (Korean) $$

Lanesplitter Pizza at the 536 Lake Park Ave., Oakland, 510-[illegible] (Pizza) $

LoCoco's Restaurant 4270 Piedmont Ave., Oakland, 510-652-6222 (Italian/Pizza) $$

[illegible] Spot Bar & Grill 3417 Grand Ave., Oakland, 510-768-[illegible] (Steak House) $$

Market 542 Grand Ave., Oakland, 510-452-8500 (American/New American) $$-$$$

[illegible] 3355 Lakeshore Ave., Oakland, 510-451-7134 (California Cuisine/Pizza) $$

Triple 3814 Piedmont Ave., Oakland, 510-653-2448 (Cashbar) $$

OAKLAND-ROCKRIDGE

À Côté 5478 College Ave., Oakland, 510-655-6469 (California Cuisine/French/Italian/Organic/Sustainable/Seasonally/Tapas/Small Plates) $$$

Barney's Piedmont Hamburgers 5819 College Ave., Oakland, 510-601-0444 (American/Burgers/Sandwiches) $

Market Taqueria 5642 College Ave. Market, 510-658-[illegible] (Mexican/Organic/Sustainable) $

CommonWealth Cafe and Pub 2882 Telegraph Ave., Oakland, 510-663-3091 (English/Irish/[illegible] Bars/Coffeehouses) $

Enoteca Oakland 5474 College Ave., Oakland, 510-428-4078 (Italian/Tapas/Small Plates/Wine Bar) $$

Market 5356 College Ave., Oakland, 510-655-6000 (American/California Cuisine/Italian/Pizza/New Piedmont) $$$$

I Berkeley 5400 College Ave., Oakland, 510-594-4460 (Asian/Middle Eastern) $$$

Pasta Pomodoro 5500 College Ave., Oakland, 510-866-3200 (Indian/Pakistani) $$

Lake Aroo [illegible] Canyon [illegible] Foods, Berkeley, 510-[illegible] (Delis/Burgers/Sandwiches/Coffeehouses/Delis/Dessert/Ice Cream) $

Marica 5301 College Ave., Oakland, 510-985-8388 (Asian Fusion/Seafood)

$$-$$$

Shangri-La Vegan Restaurant 4581 Linden St., Oakland, 510-547-1842 (Vegetarian/Vegan) $

Somerset 5912 College Ave., Oakland, 510-428-0822 (American/Breakfast/Brunch/California Cuisine) $$

Top Dog 5100 Broadway, Oakland, 510-[illegible] (American/Burgers/Sandwiches/Organic/Sustainable) $

Wood Tavern 6317 College Ave., Oakland, 510-654-6607 (California Cuisine) $$-$$$

Zachary's Chicago Pizza 5801 College Ave., Oakland, 510-655-6385 (Pizza) $-$$

OAKLAND-TEMESCAL

Addis Ethiopian Restaurant 6100 Telegraph Ave., Oakland, 510-653-3456 (African/Ethiopian/Eritrean) $$

Andy and Cindy's Thai Cuisine Sunday Temescal Farmers Market, Oakland, 415-812-6400 (Organic/Sustainable/Thai/Summer/Vegetarian/Vegan) $

Aunt Mary's Cafe 4640 Telegraph Ave., Oakland, 510-601-9227 (American/Breakfast/Brunch/Southern/Soul Food) $-$$

Bureau Burgerbar 4721 Telegraph Ave., Oakland, 510-658-2900 (Southeast Asian) $$

Cafe Colucci 6427 Telegraph Ave., Oakland, 510-601-7999 (African/Ethiopian/Eritrean/Organic/Sustainable) $-$$

Casserole House 4301 Telegraph Ave., Oakland, 510-601-6003 (Korean) $

Sura Sung Ko 115 Telegraph Ave., Oakland, 510-[illegible] (Korean) $$

Dona Tomás 5004 Telegraph Ave., Oakland, 510-450-0522 (Mexican/California Cuisine/Southwestern) $$$

PICK

Edible Schoolyard Plant Sale

Affiliated with the Chez Panisse Foundation, the Edible Schoolyard at **Martin Luther King Jr. Middle School** (1781 Rose St., Berkeley) is a working garden where students learn to grow fruits, vegetables, legumes, and other produce that they later harvest, prepare, and eat. The schoolyard's all-day **Mother's Day Plant Sale** on Saturday, May 7, features plants, raffle prizes, live music, and booths featuring locally made food and other springtime delights. 9 a.m., free. EdibleSchoolyard.org

—*Anneli Rufus*

Koryo Wooden Charcoal Barbecue 4390 Telegraph Ave., Oakland, 510-652-6007 (Korean) $$

Lanesplitter Pizza and Pub 4799 Telegraph Ave., Oakland, 510-653-5350 (Pizza/Bars & Clubs) $

Brooklyn Royal Cafe 4017 Broadway, Oakland, 510-541-3000 (American/Breakfast/Brunch) $

Burn 40 4015 Telegraph Ave., Oakland, 510-652-2100 (Tapas/Small Plates/Wine Bar) $-$$

Dhyana Cotuse Restaurant 3011 Broadway, Oakland, 510-594-8300 (Korean) $$-$$$

Shattuck Barbeque House 2600 Telegraph Ave., Oakland, 510-834-1757 (Korean) $-$$

Uzen 5179 Telegraph Ave., Oakland, 510-655-9300 (American/California Cuisine/Southern/Soul Food/New American) $$$

Yayo Ze Tang 3818 Telegraph Ave., Oakland, 510-663-2108 (Chinese/Korean) $

TRI VALLEY

Restaurant: Steak & Chop House 7430 San Ramon Rd., Dublin, 925-833-0960 (American/Seafood/Steak House) $$$

Zachary's Chicago Pizza 3110 Crow Canyon Pl., Suite D, San Ramon, 925-244-1222 (Pizza) $-$$

WALNUT CREEK

Spices of India 1359 N. Main St., Walnut Creek, 925-256-7684 (Indian/Pakistani/Organic/Sustainable) $-$$

Hopus 1117 Locust St., Walnut Creek, 925-932-5000 (Vietnamese) $$ ●

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LOST HIGHWAY

The long, long trek west (*Meek's Cutoff*) and a plea to preserve America's film heritage (*These Amazing Shadows*)

By Kelly Vance

Heroics and cinematic beauty are absent in this art western *Meek's Cutoff*.

The western revival rolls into heavy new territory with **Kelly Reichardt**'s ***Meek's Cutoff***. It possesses neither the sardonic bravura of *True Grit* nor the parodic playfulness of *Rango*. Instead, Reichardt's demanding, ultimately mesmerizing variation on an antique theme wanders off into a wilderness of its own, somewhere south of John Ford and Terrence Malick, where the essential stoic loneliness of what we call the American character comes into focus.

No buffalo roam and the deer and antelope wouldn't dare play in the barren high desert where frontier guide Stephen Meek (**Bruce Greenwood**) is leading a breakaway party of three settler families — the Tetherows, the Whites, and the Gatelys — on a search for a short route across the Cascade Mountains, circa 1845. Having detoured off the "main stem," shaggy old boss Meek, a loud braggart whose most common riposte begins with the words "Hell's full of ...," is apparently lost — as is gradually becoming evident to the settlers. Water is running low, tempers are frayed.

This basic predicament is the foundation of countless westerns — hardship in the Old West, the bravery and determination of the homesteaders, the unpredictability of fate and nature, etc. Reichardt shows us some of the same scenes we'd see in a classic Ford western, such as when the wagons have to be lowered down a steep, rocky hill, or the poetic shot in which the women are forced to throw out their grandfather clocks and rocking chairs, the accoutrements of civilization, in order to lighten the load for their tired oxen.

One of the differences between, say, Ford's *Wagon Master* and *Meek's Cutoff* is that Ford punctuates the trek west with exciting bits of narrative incident to keep the plot bubbling, while the long, arduous, physical feat of moving thousands of miles across hostile country is shorthanded into a few inserts. Not so for Reichardt and her frequent screenwriting partner **Jon Raymond**. The deadly monotony of the trip is dwelled upon in extended, dialogue-free shots of wagons bumping along, the fording of rivers, and the little company making camp in the eerie stillness, with no John Waynes or Ward Bonds in sight. It's a caravan of frightened loners.

Meek is an ill-tempered fool but the thirsty settlers, including Emily Tetherow (**Michelle Williams**, covered in calico and a layer of dust but still headstrong), her husband Solomon (**Will Patton**, also a Reichardt regular), Thomas Gately (**Paul Dano**), Glory White (**Shirley Henderson**), and Gately's increasingly terrified wife Millie (**Zoe Kazan**) are reluctant to trust their own instincts in the wild. And so when Meek captures a solitary Native American (played by stuntman and former rodeo rider **Rod Rondeaux**) they are torn between trusting the unnamed Cayuse brave's sign-language directions and continuing to follow Meek, who has been wrong about almost everything.

Meek's Cutoff

Directed by Kelly Reichardt. With Michelle Williams and Bruce Greenwood. Opens Friday.

These Amazing Shadows

Directed by Paul Mariano and Kurt Norton. Opens Friday.

This "art western" portrait of American society in miniature was filmed just outside the city limits of the town of Burns in southeast Oregon, making it officially the final film in Reichardt's Oregon Trilogy, alongside *Wendy and Lucy* and *Old Joy* — three stories of ordinary Americans in distress told from a decidedly female point of view. Eager reviewers have glimpsed parallels to the war in Afghanistan in the plight of the anxious settlers and their trigger-happy guide (Meek is all for shooting the Cayuse; Mrs. Tetherow wants to let him live). That may be stretching it a tiny bit, but the point is intriguing. Who's to say the settlers' version of "civilization" is any more useful or just than that of the Cayuse?

The deadpan pilgrims-versus-white-trash moral struggle may seem daunting at first, but it gradually blossoms into something more expansive and accessible. Take a deep breath and drink it in. True to her ultra-independent point of view, Reichardt fashions a vision more elaborate than just an anti-Ford or an anti-Malick. By draining the Ford-ian heroics and Malick-style hypnotic natural beauty out of the frame, Reichardt's drama invites us to throw all our cinematic rocking chairs out the backs of our wagons, as well, and to pick up the argument where Mrs. Tetherow leaves off. Or not. The choice is ours. The landscape is infinitely patient.

These Amazing Shadows is one of those film history compilations that never fail to send us out in search of overlooked movies to catch up on. But **Paul Mariano** and **Kurt Norton**'s new documentary has more on its mind than just showing off the riches of America's cinematic heritage.

The kaleidoscopic clip-filled doc aims to acquaint us with the purposes of the National Film Preservation Act, which launched in 1989 with the Library of Congress issuing the National Film Registry, a cumulative annual list of 25 American-produced films to be preserved for future generations. The first few choices were easy: *Citizen Kane*, *Casablanca*, *Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs*, *Star Wars*, etc. But the board also included less well-known films such as King Vidor's *The Crowd*, on the grounds of "cultural, historical, or aesthetic significance."

The idea was that the collected films (550 as of 2010) represent a document of the times, a sort of diary of America and the way we saw ourselves in film, for better or worse. One of the most controversial choices was the 1992 selection of D.W. Griffith's *The Birth of a Nation*, now and forever a true paradox. Griffith was guilty of aggravated racism in his ugly stereotypes and glorification of the Ku Klux Klan in that 1915 drama, but he was also the inventor of the modern language of film. And so his work takes its place beside the films of Charles Burnett, John Singleton, and Spike Lee. It's all part of the "national memory."

That memory is in danger of slipping with old age. We're informed that half of all the movies made in America before 1950 no longer exist in any form, and that figure is 80 percent for films before 1920. Essentially, Mariano and Norton's endlessly entertaining doc is a commercial for film preservation, including all sorts of neglected forms — newsreels, experimental films, home movies, music videos (Michael Jackson's *Thriller* was the first music vid admitted to the Registry), made-for-TV movies — as well as critical and box-office champs that played in theaters. Let's hope we never run out of money for this particular project. ●

Editor@EastBayExpress.com

MOVIES & THEATERS

To learn where a movie is playing, note the abbreviations at the end of each listing, then consult the theater guide at the bottom of this page. Capsule reviews are written by Andrea Gronvall (A.G.), Cole Haddon (C.H.), J.R. Jones (J.J.), and Kelly Vance (K.V.). For a schedule of repertory films, see One-Night Stands at the end of these listings. Please send info fourteen days before event date to editor@eastbayexpress.com

OPENING

Jumping the Broom Romantic comedy about two families from opposite socio-economic strata who come together for a wedding. Directed by Salim Akil, written by Arlene Gibbs and Elizabeth Hunter, and starring Laz Alonso, Paula Patton, Tasha Smith, Loretta Devine, and Megan Good. PG-13.

Something Borrowed Romantic comedy about a woman (Ginnifer Goodwin) who falls for her best friend's fiance. Directed by Luke Greenfield, written by Jennie Snyder Urman and based on the novel of the same name by Emily Giffin, also starring Kate Hudson, John Krasinski, and Colin Egglesfield. PG-13.

Thor Kenneth Branagh directs Marvel Comics' hammer-wielding title Norse god (Chris Hemsworth) and his alien detour to New Mexico and he falls in love with Natalie Portman on the way to taking [illegible] the red-eyed frost [illegible] Loki (Tom Hiddleston) falls over Asgard and put their [illegible] (Anthony Hopkins), king of the gods. [illegible] Got all that? Branagh's direction [illegible] same as film of any other summer tentpole manager, and things go boom. It took eight writers, including Marvel chief Stan Lee, to fashion the screenplay. Fanboys' delight, all others beware. Costarring Stellan Skarsgård and Kat Dennings. (114 min.) (K.V.) [illegible]

ONGOING

The Adjustment Bureau Uneasy mixture of sci-fi and situation [illegible] yields modest dividends. Adapted from a short story by science fiction master Philip K. Dick, the thriller, [illegible] an ambitious New York City politician (Matt Damon) whose budding relationship with a [illegible] (Emily Blunt) keeps getting nipped by fedora-hatted supra-powered agents — can we call them "guardian angels"? Determined to keep the would-be lovers apart [illegible] mysterious "plan" [illegible] Damon and Blunt are [illegible] by determined — who follows all the [illegible] street-door stuff? Costarring Anthony Mackie, John Slattery and Terence Stamp as the plot's shadows. (112 min.) (K.V.) [illegible]

Nature Cats Nature doc [illegible] African cats (specifically, cheetahs, and lions in the savanna). Directed by Alastair Fothergill and Keith Scholey and narrated by Samuel L. Jackson. G. [illegible]

Arthur Russell Brand, playing the archetypal childish multi-millionaire who learns valuable life lessons when he falls in love with an ordinary woman who [illegible] for a living (Greta Gerwig), is just as hard to take as Dudley Moore was when he played the role in 1981. [illegible] (K.V.) [illegible]

Atlas Shrugged: Part 1 Film adaptation of the first part of Ayn Rand's [illegible]

Showtimes Online

Movie showtimes and online ticket-buying at EastBayExpress.com

Theater Guide

This guide explains the abbreviations at the end of each capsule. AL = Landmark Albany; ATC = Alameda Theatre & Cineplex; [illegible] Blackhawk; BP = Brenden Pittsburg; [illegible] = AMC Bay Street; CA = Landmark California; CAPH = CineArts Pleasant Hill; [illegible] = Century Hayward(?) [illegible]; CCC = Contra Costa Cinemas; CPH = Century Pleasant Hill; [illegible] = Century Hilltop; CHY = Century Hayward; [illegible] = Cinedome Newark; CRC = Regal Crow Canyon; [illegible] Space and Science; CUC = Century Union City; CWC = Century Walnut Creek; DV = AMC Deer Valley; GL = Grand Lake; [illegible] = Regal Jack London; [illegible]; PFA = Pacific Film Archive; PM = Landmark Piedmont; RCC = Rialto Cinemas Cerrito; RCE = Rialto Cinemas Elmwood; RH = Regal Hacienda; RT = Rheem Theater; SH = Landmark Shattuck; UAB = UA Berkeley; UAE = UA Emery Bay; V = Vine; WVS = [illegible]

M&T

ion bible. Directed by Paul Stoneback, written by [illegible] Patrick O'Toole, and starring Taylor Schilling [illegible] Grant Bowler. CAPH

Bill Cunningham New York The [illegible] photographer [illegible] the [illegible] street [illegible], photo-ready with his *New York Times* [illegible] "On the Street," and [illegible] documentary shows us Bill's world, from the [illegible] working style to his [illegible] apartment in Carnegie Hall to the [illegible] of the likes of Anna Wintour and Tom Wolfe — among many [illegible] and [illegible]. Cunningham's [illegible] of beauty. At age eighty, the [illegible] about [illegible] that about [illegible] younger men, but we get the [illegible] and that's what he lives for. (84 min.) [illegible]

Born to Be Wild Short [illegible] about orphaned [illegible] and [illegible] in [illegible] and Borneo, and [illegible] to help them. Narrated by Morgan Freeman. (40 min.) [illegible]

Certified Copy The best way to [illegible] this is [illegible] being [illegible] a small town in Tuscany [illegible] British art expert [illegible] (William Shimell) [illegible] a French woman [illegible] about who run an art gallery (Juliette Binoche), and they drive off for some sightseeing, [illegible] through the afternoon, [illegible] to about all that [illegible] with she and [illegible] are a [illegible] couple with [illegible]. He goes along, [illegible] to a point. It's another Abbas Kiarostami drama [illegible] and investigating the questions [illegible] the "authentic" [illegible] and who-[illegible]. As long as your patience holds, it's [illegible] something to [illegible] about [illegible] for the Iranian international writer-director of *White Balloon* and *Taste of Cherry*. (106 min.) [illegible]

The Conspirator A Civil War drama. In 1865, Frederick Redford and the American Film Company [illegible] into the case of Mary Surratt (well played by Robin Wright), the Washington, D.C. boardinghouse [illegible] of conspiracy in the assassination of [illegible] Abraham Lincoln in 1865. The [illegible] is appropriately sober, and Surratt, a Confederate sympathizer [illegible] suspected [illegible] of the assassin John Wilkes Booth (Toby Kebbell), is also a Roman Catholic. And so when she [illegible] an all-male [illegible] the classic [illegible] — a point not lost on the [illegible] attorney [illegible] McAvoy and [illegible] for their relationship, which should have been the film's [illegible] center. [illegible] the [illegible] Kevin Kline, Danny Huston, Tom Wilkinson, [illegible] Colm Meaney [illegible] the [illegible] in the [illegible] government men, whose chief [illegible] to hang the [illegible] as quickly as possible and [illegible] Is it all an allegory for Guantanamo and the war on terror? Without [illegible] But this old-fashioned [illegible] drama is fully capable of [illegible] alone. (123 min.) [illegible]

Diary of a Wimpy Kid: Rodrick Rules The second installment of the [illegible] series follows our [illegible] wimpy hero, Greg (Zachary Gordon), as he [illegible] to [illegible] crush, [illegible] with family drama, and survive seventh grade. [illegible]

Dinosaurs Alive! From the Triassic to the Cretaceous, [illegible] we [illegible] by paleontologists and [illegible] in [illegible]. [illegible]

Dum Maaro Dum Hindi-language crime flick revolving around [illegible] drug lord and the cop on his tail. Directed by Rohan Sippy, written by Shridhar Raghavan, starring Abhishek Bachchan, Rana Daggubati, and Prateik Babbar. (133 min.) [illegible]

Dylan Dog: Dead of Night Action-horror-comedy [illegible]. New Orleans-based [illegible] (Brandon Routh) [illegible] to battle [illegible] both paranormal and otherwise as he [illegible]. [illegible]

Fast Five Fifth installment of the street-racing franchise, with all the [illegible] going [illegible] the [illegible] in the [illegible]. (131 min.) [illegible]

Hanna Not the [illegible] junior spy [illegible]. But one of the [illegible] teenager Hanna (Saoirse Ronan) [illegible] in a [illegible] performance) has been raised in a [illegible] European [illegible] by her father (Eric Bana) to be the ultimate "rogue asset," and she certainly [illegible] of the [illegible] especially CIA [illegible] Cate Blanchett, who [illegible] to kill her, but she [illegible] them. [illegible] all be pretty silly [illegible] Joe Wright's Grimm-ish fairytale mood, captured in the [illegible] wilderness of Finland, the [illegible] and in a [illegible] children's [illegible] park in Berlin. [illegible] it all as [illegible] to it, and [illegible] by Tom [illegible] and [illegible] Barden. Screenplay by Seth Lochhead and David Farr, from Lochhead's story. Imaginative direction by Wright (*The Soloist*, *Atonement*, *Pride and Prejudice*), who only [illegible] what is [illegible] necessary [illegible]. (111 min.) [illegible]

Hoodwinked Too! Hood vs. Evil [illegible] and starring Hayden Panettiere as Red Riding Hood, and now must team up with the Wolf to rescue Hansel and Gretel. Directed by Mike Disa, written by Cory Edwards, Todd Edwards, and Tony Leech, and starring Glenn Close. (113 min.) [illegible]

Hop [illegible] CGI update of Easter Bunny story [illegible] the Bunny's teenaged son [illegible] and soon-to-be heir to the family [illegible] in a coming-of-age story as he [illegible] out West to become a rock star. Directed by Tim Hill, written by Ken Daurio, Cinco Paul, and Brian Lynch, and starring Russell Brand, James Marsden, Kaley Cuoco, and Elizabeth Perkins. [illegible]

I Am Interview-based documentary in which director Tom Shadyac asks [illegible] world leaders, and the like about what they believe the [illegible] problems facing the world today are, and how to fix them. Featuring Desmond Tutu, Noam Chomsky, and many more. (76 min.) [illegible]

Insidious Horror flick about a [illegible] young boy's inner and outer life as his body is [illegible] upon by evil spirits and his mind is [illegible] to a [illegible] netherworld. Directed by James Wan, written by Leigh Whannell, starring Patrick Wilson and Rose Byrne. [illegible]

Jane Eyre Cary Joji Fukunaga maintains the [illegible] voice of the much-filmed Englishlit franchise: this *Jane* is dark, gothic, and Victorian, the [illegible] the somewhat [illegible] in our [illegible] (nicely played by Mia Wasikowska) who rat. [illegible] (Michael Fassbender), landing in [illegible] Hall, the house [illegible]. Director Fukunaga (*Sin Nombre*) and screenwriter Moira Buffini (*Tamara Drewe*) imagine Jane Eyre as [illegible], intelligent, [illegible] young woman and [illegible] the [illegible] she's been [illegible] carefully, and [illegible]. The large and [illegible] supporting players [illegible] to the [illegible] Sally Hawkins, Judi Dench, Jamie Bell, Freya Parker, Simon McBurney, Imogen Poots, and Valentina Cervi. (115 min.) [illegible]

Last Days Without [illegible] Thurgood [illegible] emerged as one of the [illegible] directors in

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Pom Wonderful Presents: The Greatest Movie Ever Sold [illegible]

Potiche [illegible] (103 min.) [illegible]

The Princess of Montpensier [illegible] (139 min.) [illegible]

Prom [illegible]

Rango [illegible] (107 min.) [illegible]

Rio [illegible] (96 min.) [illegible]

The Robber [illegible]

Scream 4 [illegible] (103 min.) [illegible]

Soul Surfer [illegible] (106 min.) [illegible]

Source Code [illegible] (93 min.) [illegible]

Sucker Punch [illegible]

To the [illegible]

Tyler Perry's Madea's Big Happy Family [illegible]

[illegible] (105 min.) [illegible]

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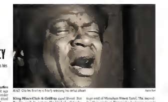
A BREAK FOR CHARLES BRADLEY

At 62, the soul singer finally releases his debut album

By Rachel Swan



At 62, Charles Bradley is finally releasing his debut album.

Kahz Ban

The official biography for singer **Charles Bradley** says he was discovered at age 51 when **Daptone Records** co-founder **Gabriel Roth** walked into the Tar-Heel Lounge in Bedford Stuyvesant and saw Bradley performing with a James Brown tribute act under the stage name "Black Velvet." Bradley's producer, **Tom Brenneck**, has a slightly less romantic version of events. "The story I hear is that Charles actually showed up at Gabe's door and said, 'Hi, I'm a James Brown impersonator. Someone told me that I should meet you.'"

That wouldn't be too out of character for Bradley, who has a long history of wandering into clubs, singing a couple numbers, and hoping to get called back. Raised in Brooklyn and Gainesville, Florida, he spent twenty years working as a line cook in the Bay Area, built his vocal chops doing the Black Velvet act, and spent more time living the blues than singing about it. He left home at age fourteen, found work as a chef through Job Corps, and eventually formed a band — only to see his bandmates get drafted to serve in the Vietnam War. He spent decades moving from job to job and from project to project. He witnessed his brother's murder at the hands of his nephew. Before Roth discovered him, he was living in an abandoned building. And now, at age 62, he's released a soul album.

It's one in a spate of so-called "revivalist" works to emerge under the Daptone imprimatur. But, as Brenneck assures, it's no mere imitation. "He has this voice that sounds like a dinosaur almost," Brenneck said. "His voice sounds ancient, you know? Like when he closes his eyes and he's about to sing, it's just like, 'Get ready. Here it comes.'"

Bradley, whose speaking voice is a low crumbly growl, says he always loved singing. "My grandmother used to take me to the recreation center, and I used to watch the grown people dance," he said. "I'd get on the floor and be dancing with these grown people. ... Music made me feel — complete." He became fully enamored of James Brown after catching the soul singer at Harlem's **Apollo Theater** in the mid-Sixties. "They had the strobe light on both sides of the stage ... and he came onstage like a fire," Bradley recalled. "And I said, *I wanna do something like that*."

The fact that Bradley came up as an impersonator is one of the great ironies of his career. His admiration for James Brown is heartfelt and deep, and when he puts on the Black Velvet apparel, their resemblance can be uncanny — so says Bradley, at least. He still plays casinos up and down White Plains as well as the **B.B. King Blues Club & Grill** on 42nd Street. But Bradley isn't, by nature, the kind of artist who should be doing someone else's act. His appeal lies not in being a showman, but rather in the integrity of his lyrics, and the grizzled soulfulness of his voice.

Evidently, it took Daptone a while to recognize that. "I don't think they gave Bradley too much attention," Brenneck said, reflecting on the singer's first-ever recording with the Brooklyn-based label. "They just had him sing on a **Sugarman Three** song [for the band led by Roth's business partner **Neal Sugarman**]. They wrote the lyrics for him and it was just kind of like very kitschy and very James Browny and not very original. And it didn't go anywhere."

That was in 2001, roughly the same time as the record label's genesis. Daptone would soon become one of the most ambitious indie soul labels in the country, with a roster that included **The Budos Band** and **Sharon Jones & the Dap-Kings** (which features Roth on bass and Brenneck on guitar). At that time, though, Brenneck was in another band called **Dirt Rifle and Bullets**. He had been sending demos to Daptone for a while. When Roth finally listened to Dirt Rifle, he sent Charles Bradley out to the group's Staten Island studio for a rehearsal. It was the first time that Brenneck and Bradley met. "We ended up doing a couple singles for Daptone as Charles Bradley and the Bullets," Brenneck said. "But those were kinda, like, not too hot. And they were also still stuck in that James Brown bubble." He paused, reflecting. "At the time I was only like 19 or 20 and I was just thrilled that this, you know, 50-year-old black man thought that the music we were making was soulful. That was just like all of a sudden we felt credible to the kind of music we had been playing out in suburbia."

Dirt Rifle ultimately morphed into The Budos Band, and Brenneck went on to start another project, **The Menahan Street Band**. "I thought that Charles' voice would be a match made in heaven because the music was much more mature than the stuff I was doing earlier. It wasn't in the vein of James Brown; it was more in the vein of Joe Pecks, Otis Redding, or Percy Sledge. Traditional Sixties soul, but not James Brown."

He called it. Bradley's rumbly, impassioned baritone was, indeed, a perfect fit for the vintage soul of Menahan Street Band. The recording they made in Brenneck's bedroom sounds exactly like a record made forty years ago, but better. Bradley wrote "Lovin' You Baby," a love ballad with a deeply sad undertow: *All my life I've been searching for love/Mourning for love/Giving everything I know*, he laments on the song's first verse. He also wrote "Heartaches and Pain," which touches on the story of his brother's murder: *I woke up this morning/My momma she was cryin'/So I looked out my window/Police lights was flashin'/People were screamin'/So I ran down to the street/A friend grabbed my shoulder/And said these words to me/'Life is full of sorrow. So I have to tell you this, your brother is gone.'*

On the chorus, he breaks into a primal wail.

Brenneck pitched the resulting album, called *No Time for Dreaming*, to Daptone, which released it earlier this year under Bradley's name. It took about three years to produce, and in the interim, very little changed in the life of Charles Bradley. In private conversations, Bradley describes himself as "a humble person," and says he's well aware that people often mistake kindness for weakness. He illustrates points by quoting scripture. He still lives in the projects, in Bushwick, and serves as a caretaker for his mother. He gigs multiple times a week, both as Black Velvet and as himself. He says that one of his life goals is to bring the two personae "together in a unified way."

If you ask Brenneck, though, there's something unusually personal about Charles Bradley that defies comparison to any other singer. "All the songs are stories about his life — and he's been through hell," the young producer said. "His voice, you know, I think it's one of a kind."

And it's a relic. Musicians of Bradley's generation are fading, and easily being supplanted by soul "revivalists" who approach the genre from both a celebratory and a scholarly angle. "There's not too many peers of him that are just figuring out how to write songs, and get their careers underway — most of the guys are washed up," Brenneck observed. "If anything, they'd try to rekindle a past career. But Charles, his past includes everything under the sun except singing for a living. He's finally getting his break." ●

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RAPPING ON THE MARGINS

Fillmore emcee DaVinci uses hip-hop to address the disparities of urban life

By M.T. Richards

DaVinci

In San Francisco, money is in the air. The town is a hub of city decor and scenic charm, but unless you are financially well heeled, San Francisco's considerable draws aren't really open to exploration.

It's a place of extremity and contradiction, where slick professionals and homeless vagrants negotiate the same streets, the socioeconomic gap widening ad infinitum. Thankfully we have **DaVinci** — a 27-year-old rapper who continues to redefine Bay Area hip-hop's parameters — to articulate the issue.

"When you go anywhere in the world and say you're a rapper from San Fran, people's first thought is Fisherman's Wharf and Rice-A-Roni," DaVinci said. "Until they hear my music, watch my videos, or take a walk with me through the streets I grew up in and realize their perception is all wrong."

Whatever the archetype of a Bay Area rapper is, DaVinci scarcely fits it; in fact, with his swift, elegant rhymes, his chief influence might be Queensbridge emcee **Nas**. It's a comparison that DaVinci welcomes. "I think East Coast rap influenced my style in terms of flow and how I approach the music conceptually," he said.

Show Details
At 330 Ritch (330 Ritch St., San Francisco) on Sunday, May 8. 9 p.m., $17. 330Ritch.com

This is what makes him so exciting. DaVinci typifies a new class of street-savvy artists who skew local but couldn't be further removed from the musically free-associative psychedelia of "based" rappers like **Lil B**. Aesthetically, DaVinci is more conservative, but his boom-bap-oriented hip-hop works because it integrates just the right touch of sly humor. Witness how he flipped Michael Jackson's 1972 song "Ben" into a head-nodding anthem about counting stacks. (Get it, Ben? As in, Ben Franklin?)

But he didn't always have much to laugh about. DaVinci grew up in the once-celebrated Fillmore district, where poverty and tense race relations informed an overt sense of unease among residents.

"While I was growing up, Fillmore was a predominantly black community — made up of everything from pimps, dope dealers, hustlers, and prostitutes to working, middle-class people," he said. "The high crime rate led redevelopers to come in and tear down half of the projects and build expensive condos. In other words, broke black people can get out, and whoever got enough money can move in."

Years before Bay Area hip-hop saw a groundswell in momentum, DaVinci was just an anonymous kid struggling to understand and broaden his worldview. Local rappers like **San Quinn** and **JT the Bigga Figga** were heroes in Fillmore, but it was a very blinkered kind of success. Few people checked for these guys outside of the 415. Chalk it up to public misconception.

San Francisco might be one of the nation's more affluent cities, but seeping through the cracks is a desperation that tourists and their privileged ilk handily ignore.

DaVinci has a decidedly different conception of the city by the bay, and he says it's borne out in statistics. "Rapping about poverty and the 'hood is only cliché to those who see it as entertainment — as make-believe," he said pointedly. "The conditions of my people are real, and if that's cliché to you, then you won't ever get it."

Whenever he discusses the strife of the Fillmore, DaVinci seems cross and defiant, as if troubled by skewed impressions of his city that abound in the popular imagination. For the last decade he has attempted — often trying — to reshape his hometown's image. That's a heavy burden no matter how much regional pride one bears.

DaVinci started rapping in 2001 and cut his first mixtape a year later. At first the reception to his guileless, perceptively low-key street rap was lukewarm and DaVinci grew frustrated. "I got tired of my music collecting dust," he says now.

It wasn't until the spring of 2010 that he really found his niche. Recognizing that most listeners consume their hip-hop virally, DaVinci allowed fans to download his debut album *The Day the Turf Stood Still* without charge. Soon everyone was paying attention. Unfailingly hip publications like *XLR8R* and Pitchfork Media wrote about DaVinci with all the starry-eyed enthusiasm of a film critic reviewing *Black Swan*.

"My folks came to me with a strategy to utilize the web to distribute a project," he said. "The Internet provided me the outlet I was looking to find for years."

Even without the luxury afforded by a computer, though, DaVinci would likely still find a way to be heard because he is an intensive, commanding, thrilling presence. People with his talent don't go ignored, even if they came up on the margins. ●

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EVER-UPLIFTING ATMOSPHERE

Slug, Spawn and the Rhymesayers Family hit the Greek Theatre this week

By Rachel Swan

Some rappers build their careers by being the hardest of the hard and the streetest of the street. Others are tough and party on the outside while the inside is about redemption and fragility. And some, like Minneapolis-based emcee **Slug** (aka **Sean Daley**) of the famed backpacker duo **Atmosphere**, are emo all the way through.

You don't need to listen to Slug's lyrics to figure that out. Just assess his production style. Notice the surfeit of piano melodies, or the fact that almost every song occurs in a minor key. Or take note of his discography: *God Loves Ugly, Sad Clown Bad Dub 7, Sad Clown Bad Summer 9, Sad Clown Bad Fall 10, Sad Clown Bad Winter 11, Sad Clown Bad Spring 12, Strictly Leakage*. And the ever-uplifting *When Life Gives You Lemons, You Paint That Shit Gold*.

"I've been emo my whole life," Slug said, reflecting on the near-maudlin qualities of his current album *The Family Sign*. "I invented that shit." He paused a beat. "I guess that's a good thing — to be called emo. Like being emotional. Like Tupac, right? I mean, he's got a better voice than me."

To be fair, Slug benefits from having a sense of humor. And his most sad-clownish tracks are often a veiled metaphor for something else. Take the song "Bad Bad Daddy," ostensibly about an abusive, negligent father (*Now let me celebrate and get drunk/'Cause my wife missed her period again this month*).

Actually, those lines are deceptive, Slug said. "The Bad Dad song is about my embarrassment and disappointment at the indie rappers I gave birth to," he explained, elucidating the lyrics thus: "It's like, I'm sitting at the bar looking at my nine kids — I don't really have nine kids — and saying, 'Look at these fucking kids.'" He chuckled in mock disapproval.

In other words, Slug wanted to try a new spin on an old hip-hop trope. The song boils down to a simple contention: "I'm fresher than you."

Perhaps he's right. Though he never quite achieved mainstream popularity, Slug has enjoyed phenomenal success — and staying power — in the indie hip-hop scene. As co-founder of the record label **Rhymesayers Entertainment**, he helped launch the careers of **Eyedea**, **Evidence**, and **Brother Ali**, among others. After dropping more than twenty albums — both under the Atmosphere moniker and with his main side project **Felt** — the 38-year-old emcee has a big-enough draw to headline the **Greek Theatre** in Berkeley, where he'll appear this Saturday, May 7, with co-frontman **Spawn** and other members of the Rhymesayers family. **Aesop Rock, Rob Sonic, Budo, Grieves, DJ Big Wiz, Sab the Artist** and **DJ Abilities** will round out the bill. Slug promises not only a real piano but a real guitar as well, to help bring his sad melodies to life. ●

At The Greek Theatre (Hearst Ave. at Gayley Rd., Berkeley) on May 7. 6 p.m., $35. APEConcerts.com

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CD REVIEWS

WHERE THE WILD THINGS ARE

Osmotic indie pop, working-class jeremiads, and a funkee, boastful homosapien

Panda Bear

Tomboy

Like some obsessed fanboy, I've been listening to **Panda Bear**'s new album solidly for more than a week. This isn't because I particularly like hipster idol **Noah Lennox**'s fourth solo album. It's more that I am intrigued by it, and am not sure if I understand it. I'm slowly feeding the album to my subconscious like a garden's drip system, in the hopes that something will eventually soak through. So far, bits and pieces: a hook here, a melody there, a lyric, a beat, an occasional time signature.

It may seem that I'm ducking the question. But a tenth, fifteenth, twentieth listen to these fifty minutes and eleven tracks of droning, ambient, experimental indie-pop suggests that this is all there is: half-buried fragments of an obscured whole. Maybe **Brian Eno** would dig it. For some the mystery alone may be sufficient: that is, an album that feels incomplete, devoutly open-ended may be an end in itself. For others, it's not. Or perhaps there aren't two types of people but two frames of mind. *Tomboy* is a stoner's bedroom reverie: all reverb and incomprehensibly languid lyrics layered in harmony. Its intimacy drives people inside themselves. You don't share this music but dwell within it.

Lennox is a founding member of **Animal Collective**, if that says anything. Like that group, he buries elements of pop music beneath blankets of Sunset District-thick fog that the general public might deem boring or featureless. A few songs here are more direct than the others: opening trio "You Can Count on Me," "Tomboy," and "Slow Motion," plus "Alsatian Darn." One can hum along, but beware: These artifacts may reveal themselves after twenty listens, or never. (Paw Tracks)

— Nate Seltenrich

Police Teeth

Awesomer Than the Devil

Seattle's little-known and largely unheralded **Police Teeth** continues to write, record, and perform some of the best indie rock around, despite the lack of financial gain, notoriety, or justice. Few are in its league. Hell, few are playing the same game. *Awesomer Than the Devil* brings the damage just as hard as 2008's *Real Sea Monster Scenes*, a cult hit among those in the know. This is the sound of smart, cynical guys playing vital music that crushes the competition.

Should-be No. 1 hits like "Summertime Bruise" and "Rock and Roll Is a Pyramid Scheme (Parts 1 & 2)" cross paths with moody and insistent pieces such as "Public Defender" and "Watching the Hydroplanes" (originally by the band **TunnelVision**). A slap in the face of Pitchfork Media-style posing, *Awesomer* includes scathing indictments of the "cash in, get out" nature of the banking class and songs that advocate burning your diploma for heat. To the initiated, the catchy, working-class rock of Police Teeth demands comparisons to **Les Savy Fav** at the top of its game, or **The Thermals** when they truly lock it in, or **Archers of Loaf**. True to its title, the album is not only worth a blind buy; it's a necessity. (Latest Flame Records)

— Conan Neutron

Del Tha Funkee Homosapien

Golden Era

Del Tha Funkee Homosapien's appeal doesn't lie in machismo or a larger-than-life persona. Instead, the veteran Oakland emcee's strengths are being relatable and spinning entertaining anecdotes. On notable tracks like "Mistadobalina" and "If You Must," he was like the ideal next-door neighbor. Once in a while, you visit Del's place for drinks and video games. He'll talk some very amusing shit and give you an evening full of insightful observations. But on *Golden Era*, his ninth solo LP, the shit talking takes center stage without the well-reasoned witticisms to back them up. Thus Del threatens to become another rapper concerned more with talking about how you shouldn't fuck with him instead of proving why you shouldn't.

The chorus of "Upside Down" encapsulates the whole record: *This is dedicated to the haters and the naysayers/Who always want to argue about what hip-hop is.* Distinct narratives and killer punch lines are mostly absent, beats and the album never alters its current, running together like a freestyle written without any breaks. "Fallout" contains the worst boast in *I be ripping this shit till it fall out/A lot of these fools be all mouth* ("Ripping," "shit," and "fall out" combine to make something that sounds way more icky than it does badass.) Del is capable of so much better than this. On the positive side, the music on *Golden Era* (whose physical release comes packaged with re-releases of 2009's *Funk Man* and *Automatik Statik*) is varied and mostly good, with the mangled ice cream truck jingle of "Double Barrel" and the *Pac-Man*-meets-light-jazz of "Fallout" making for particularly sturdy beats. (The Council)

— Rayan Ali

LOCAL LICKS

Paris King

The Roughest Draft

Consider the title misleading. **Paris King**'s new solo release is an incredibly considered piece of work, recorded on vintage gear and mixed in a home studio. The surface pleasures of the music — most of which sounds like classical indie rock, albeit with richly textured orchestration — belies the complexity of King's recording process. He plays most of the instruments himself — including bass, guitar, piano, and Moog — and sings over top in a scruffy tenor. He also raps. (self-released)

Andrew Hyra

Curious

Maybe it doesn't always behoove a country singer to have folky sensibilities, but in **Andrew Hyra**'s case, it's refreshing. In some ways his songs have more in common with Sixties-era protest music than with contemporary country western. Biblical references and populist lyrics abound, along with quirky confessionals (*I'm a Weather Channel junkie*) and the obligatory sensitive-guy love songs ("For Her"). The tracks are hooky and upbeat. (Poor Uncle Music)

Quiet Time

Quiet Time EP

Perhaps by dint of budget or circumstance, this EP by **Dan B** and **Audio Angel** (aka Professor Bang and Shidalou) is super-lean on production values. That said, it has moments of beauty, particularly when Audio Angel engulfs the melody lines with her all-powerful contralto. Give that woman a simple guitar lick and she'll make of it an aria. The only problem is that Audio Angel's voice is too often squandered on background harmonies. (self-released)

Eli Conley & Hip for Squares

All the Livelong Day

Ostensibly, singer **Eli Conley** should fit comfortably in the political folk or protest music tradition, but for the fact that his lyrics are too opaque to stand for any particular party line. "Pinocchio" appears to be about gender normativity, but it might just be about winning acceptance (*I am not a real man. I'll tell you why/It's not the reason you are thinking of*). **Mala "Papaya" Wiltalo** provides lovely background harmonies. (self-released) ●

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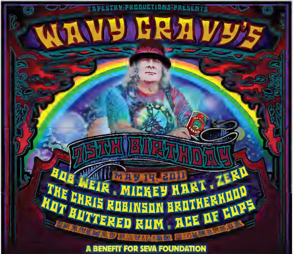
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SAT May 7th [illegible] Joe Bagale
MON May 9th 8:30pm-11pm Ale Tal Quartet featuring Grant Levin Original Jazz Combustion
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CONCERTS & CLUBS

ON SALE THIS WEEK

2011 Mountain Winery Summer Series: More than 50 performances including [illegible], Steely Dan, Don Henley, Grace Potter & The Nocturnals, and Robert Cray. Tickets go on sale Monday, May 9 at 10 a.m., starting May 27. Fridays, Saturdays. Continues through [illegible]. Mountain Winery

Jennifer Hudson: Tickets go on sale Friday, May 6 at 10 a.m. Sat., June 18, 8 p.m., $55-$45-$95. Nob Hill Masonic Center

KFOG presents Ray LaMontagne and The Pariah Dogs, with Brandi Carlile and [illegible]: Tickets go on sale Thursday, May 5 at 10 a.m. Fri., Sept. 9, 7 p.m., $39.50-$69.50. Greek Theatre

Los Amigos Invisibles and Nortec Collective, Bostich & Fussible: Tickets go on sale Friday, May 6 at 10 a.m. Sun., Sept. 11, 8 p.m. $20. The Regency Ballroom.

Hellogoodbye: Tickets go on sale Friday, May 6 at 10 a.m. Tue., Aug. 2, 8 p.m., $20. The Regency Ballroom.

[illegible]: Tickets go on sale Friday, May 6 at 10 a.m. Tue., July 12, 8 p.m. $15. The Independent.

Real Estate: Tickets go on sale Friday, May 6 at 10 a.m. Tue., Aug. 2, 8 p.m., $15. The Independent.

Taking Back Sunday with Thursday, [illegible]: Tickets go on sale Sunday, May 8 at 10 a.m. Wed., June 22, 8 p.m. $37.50. The Fillmore.

[illegible]: Tickets go on sale Sunday, May 8 at 10 a.m. Fri., July 8, 8 p.m. $35-$40. The Regency Ballroom.

[illegible]: Tickets go on sale Friday, May 6 at 10 a.m. Tue., July 26, 8 p.m., $13-$15. The Independent.

THURSDAY 5

PICKS

The Raveonettes

Having already built a reputation as a latter-day garage rock outfit whose sound owes equal debt to the **Jesus and Mary Chain** and a slew of Sixties girl groups, **The Raveonettes** took a darker and gloomier turn as they evolved. On their recently released fifth album, *Raven in the Grave*, Danish bandmates **Sharin Foo** and **Sune Rose Wagner** continue to embrace copious amounts of reverb and jangle while wrapping those new songs in a blanket of shoegazing coolness and enough feedback to make **My Bloody Valentine**'s **Kevin Shields** blush. Songs like the ethereal "My Time's Up" and the **Ennio Morricone**-flavored "Let Me on Out" traffic in the kind of pathos and yearning that will make listeners want to don eyeliner and black clothes while avoiding any kind of sunlight. The Raveonettes will be sharing their good cheer on Tuesday, May 10, at **Bimbo's 365 Club** (1025 Columbus Ave., San Francisco), 9 p.m., $25. Bimbos365Club.com — *Dave Gil de Rubio*

TV on the Radio

Rocked by the recent death of its former bassist **Gerard Smith**, Brooklyn four-piece **TV on the Radio** will nonetheless descend on the Bay Area this week for two shows. Roughly a decade old, the band is known for jangly hair-trigger guitar lines and drums that pitch forward at a seizure-like pace. Singer **Tunde Adebimpe** alternates between nerve, a bumpy energy and languid blues. Guitarist **Kyp Malone** bobbles up and down with each power-chord crunch. Drummer **Jaleel Bunton** shifts grooves with machine-gun precision. TV on the Radio's new album, *Nine Types of Light*, dropped just a few weeks ago, and it's already found favor with critics. The band members will celebrate Monday and Tuesday, May 9-10, at **The Independent** (628 Divisadero St., San Francisco), 9 p.m., $30. APE-Concerts.com — *Rachel Swan*

The Raveonettes

Ricardo Lemvo & Makina Loca

Born in Congo and raised in Los Angeles, **Ricardo Lemvo** says his dream was to create a fusion of Congolese and Cuban rumba. After years of searching for the right musicians, he put together **Makina Loca** in 1990, and he's been pursuing a global Afrocentric sound ever since. Style-wise, he's omnivorous, and his music combines the hard percussive edge of many kinds of Caribbean music — including Cuban son, salsa, bomba, and merengue — with the lilting sway of the Congo. He's a charismatic frontman able to serenade the crowd in English, Spanish, French, Lingala, and Portuguese, and the band is never less than smoking. At **Yerba Buena Gardens** (760 Mission St., San Francisco) on Saturday, May 7, 1 p.m. free. YBCA.org — *J. Poet*

The Ocean

Heard in a vacuum, the music of Germany's **The Ocean** can be slightly head-scratching. What at first sounds not unlike the heavy, apocalyptic, post-metal styling of bands like **Isis** and **Mastodon** is interspersed with earnest singing and clean, melodic guitar passages that could pass muster with the local alt-radio station. Of course, lots of bands are doing the screaming/singing and blastbeating-doodly-riff/pretty-life-affirming thing for a while now. It can be off-putting for those who like their metal served raw. But this "ensemble" — which has had at one time as many as eight members and has cycled through no less than forty musicians since its founding in 2000 — really solidified its vision with last year's *Anthropocentric*, a conceptual album that's reminiscent of Mastodon's *Crack the Skye* masterfully production-wise and even in its imagery. The band opens for **Between the Buried and Me**, **Job for a Cowboy**, and **Cephalic Carnage** at **Slim's** (333 11th St., San Francisco) on Wednesday, May 4, 8 p.m., $25. Slims-SF.com — *Kathleen Richards*

TV on the Radio

American Bach Soloists

An evening, even, of new discoveries as **American Bach Soloists** wind up their season by pairing the recently uncovered *Mass for Three Choirs* by Venetian master **Antonio Lotti** with the much-loved *Magnificat* in D major by **J. S. Bach**. Under longtime direction of **Jeffrey Thomas**, American Bach Soloists and Choir join five fresh-voiced members of the ABS Academy: soprano **Shari Wilson**, mezzo-sopranos **Abigail Fischer** and **Danielle Reutter-Harrah**, tenor **Scott Mello** and baritone **Mischa Bouvier**. Head to **First Congregational Church** (2345 Channing Way, Berkeley) on Saturday, May 7, 8 p.m. $18-$50 with discounts for seniors and students plus student rush. 415-621-7900 or AmericanBach.org/tickets — *Jason Victor Serinus*

EAST BAY

Blues, Folk & Country

Bill Evans presents "The Banjo in America": Freight & Salvage Coffeehouse, 8 p.m. $20.50-$22.50

Chris Robinson Brotherhood plus special guests: The New Parish, 9 p.m. $15

[illegible] with [illegible] and [illegible]: Kingman's Ivy Room, 9 p.m. $5

[illegible], Meredith Axelrod, [illegible] Major: Mama Buzz Cafe, 7 p.m. donations accepted

Tony Furtado [illegible] Quartet: Starry Plough, 9 p.m. $8

[illegible] Jazz/Folk Songwriter/Vocalist, [illegible]: Art House Gallery & Cultural Center, 8 p.m., $10

Jazz, Lounge & Cabaret

Patrick Evans: Telepathy (two solo) Revolution Cafe, 8:30 p.m. free

[illegible]: [illegible] Gallery, 8 p.m. $15

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THE SCRIPT
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[illegible] plays Happy Hour [illegible] [illegible], 5 p.m., free
[illegible] with The Cave Singers, Fox Theater, 8 p.m., $32.50 (sold out)
[illegible] presents with Love: A [illegible] Benefit for Japan: Relief From the Employees of [illegible] with live performances by Scott [illegible], [illegible], Omar Sosa, and DJ Cooper, The Uptown, 5 p.m., $20

Soul, Funk, R&B & Hip-Hop

[illegible] Entertainment presents the [illegible] Lounge with [illegible] [illegible] La Peña Cultural Center, 8 p.m., $10

SAN FRANCISCO

Jazz, Lounge & Cabaret

Beach Blanket Babylon Club Fugazi, 8 p.m., $25-$77
Betty Buckley Rrazz Room, May 5-6, 8 p.m., $45-$55
Eddie [illegible] w/ guests, Yoshi's San Francisco, 6-7 p.m., free
George Michalski Scott Howard, 6:30 p.m.
The Marbel Brothers Le Colonial, 7:30 p.m., free
Stompy Jones Top of the Mark, 7:30-11:30 p.m., $10

Rock & Pop

Beach Fossils with Craft Spells and Melted Toys, Slim's, 8 p.m., $13, $15
Cass McCombs with Frank Fairfield, Great American Music Hall, 9 p.m., $15
[illegible] with Sets [illegible], Bottom of the Hill, 9 p.m., $10
Dredg with The Dear Hunter, Balance and Composure and The Trophy Fire, Great American Music Hall, May 5-6, 8 p.m., $20
Fund-Raiser for Japan: [illegible] Featuring [illegible] Red Devil Lounge, 8 p.m., $10
[illegible] of Joy with Jesse Morris and the Coughs, Bile and The Government, Parkside, 9 p.m., $8
[illegible] The Warfield, 8 p.m., $40-$60
[illegible] with [illegible] presents and [illegible], Cafe du Nord, 9 p.m., $12, $15
Symphony X w/ [illegible] presents The Regency Ballroom, 8 p.m., $28-$30

World, Latin, Reggae & Reggaeton

[illegible] [illegible], 5:30 p.m., free
[illegible] Thursdays traditional music & dancing with [illegible] & Stephanie [illegible], Peña Pachamama, 8 p.m., $12

FRIDAY 6

EAST BAY

Blues, Folk & Country

[illegible] & The [illegible] Baby [illegible] Starry Plough, 9 p.m., $8
First Friday Follies burlesque night w/ MC Margaret France & artists TBA, Stork Club, 9 p.m., free
Hot [illegible] of Lebowitz Freight & Salvage Coffeehouse, 8 p.m., $20.50, $22.50
Valery Joy & Big Fish High Street Station, 7:30 p.m., $6-$15

Classical & Opera

[illegible] by Guiseppe Verdi presented by [illegible] Page, Rhythmic Cabaret Works, 8 p.m., $10-$30

Jazz, Lounge & Cabaret

[illegible] Cafe Van Kleef, 8 p.m.
[illegible] Subterranean Arthouse, 9:11 p.m.
The [illegible] Co. Performs Clifford Brown [illegible] Standards of the late Clifford Brown on Howard, with Colin Williams (bass), Rob Reich (drums), Randy Gough (keys) and Oscar Pangilinan (tenor), [illegible], 8 p.m., $5

Rock & Pop

[illegible] with Mary/Miracle B. Hamilton, and The They There, The Uptown, 9 p.m., free
Bobby Joe Ebola and the Children MacNuggits Benefit for the East Bay Humane Society with Homewrecker, Just Fellas, Bananas, and Freedom Club, 924 Gilman, 8 p.m.
[illegible] with Paper Melody, Surrender Me Faithful, My [illegible], The Boys Are Dying, Bell House Live, 7 p.m., $10, $12

Soul, Funk, R&B & Hip-Hop

Charles Bradley & the Menahan Street Band The New Parish, 9 p.m., $12, $15
Kat [illegible] Jupiter, 5-7 p.m., free
Socket Jupiter, 9 p.m., free

World, Latin, Reggae & Reggaeton

[illegible] La Peña Cultural Center, 8:30 p.m., $18, $20
[illegible] Shattuck Down Low, 8:30 p.m., $10

SAN FRANCISCO

Blues, Folk & Country

[illegible] & [illegible] [illegible], 8 p.m.-midnight, free
Tip of the Top [illegible] & Blues, 8:30 p.m., $10

Jazz, Lounge & Cabaret

[illegible] Trio live and [illegible] presents, 8-11:30 p.m., free
Beach Blanket Babylon Club Fugazi, 8 p.m., $25-$77
Betty Buckley Rrazz Room, 8 p.m., $45-$55
Black Market Jazz Orchestra Top of the Mark, 9 p.m., $10
[illegible] Ensemble [illegible], 5:30-8 p.m., free
[illegible] w/ guests, Yoshi's San Francisco, 6-7 p.m., free
George Michalski Scott Howard, 6:30 p.m.

Rock & Pop

The Donkeys with Social Studies and Rademacher, Bottom of the Hill, 9 p.m., $10
Dredg with The Dear Hunter, Balance and Composure and The Trophy Fire, Great American Music Hall, 8 p.m., $20
[illegible] with [illegible] and [illegible], [illegible], 9 p.m., $12
Mister Wizard with Hot Lunch, Gypsyhawk, [illegible] and vinyl Lebowitz by DJ Howard, Cafe du Nord, 9:30 p.m., $8
[illegible] with True [illegible] and [illegible], [illegible] Tavern, 9:30 p.m., $8
Portugal. The Man. The Fillmore, 9 p.m., $20
[illegible] presents the City and [illegible] Hemlock Tavern, 9:30 p.m., $6, $8
[illegible] with [illegible] Vanson and Almost [illegible], Slim's, 5 p.m., $18
Zoo Station: The Complete U2 Experience with [illegible]: All Cal tribute to the Ramones, Red Devil Lounge, 8 p.m., $18

Soul, Funk, R&B & Hip-Hop

[illegible] with Trademark, Young Roddy, Fiend, the Corner Boy & the Regency Ballroom
[illegible] with Lloyd and Tyga, The Warfield, 8 p.m.

World, Latin, Reggae & Reggaeton

[illegible] Brothers & [illegible] Red Poppy Art House, 8 p.m., $12-$15
Sierra Leone's Refugee All Stars with Youssoupha Sidibe with the Mystic Rhythms Band, The Independent, 9 p.m., $15

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CRAFT SPELLS · MELTED TOYS
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RU36
SAINT VERNON
ALMOST DEAD · [illegible]
SAT. MAY 7 · $18 ADV/$18 DOOR · DOORS 8, SHOW 9
MANIC HISPANIC
OLD MAN MARKLEY · [illegible]
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ROGER CLYNE & THE PEACEMAKERS
FRI. MAY 13 · $15 ADV/$15 DOOR · DOORS 8, SHOW 9
THE BLACK ANGELS
SLEEPY SUN
SAT. MAY 14 · $15 ADV/$15 DOOR · DOORS 8, SHOW 9
HAYES CARLL
THE ROMANY RYE
MON. MAY 16 · $16 ADV/$16 DOOR · DOORS 7:30, SHOW 8
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BALANCE & COMPOSURE · THE TROPHY FIRE
SUN. MAY 8 · $24 ADV/$24 DOOR · DOORS 7, SHOW 8
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CHARLIE MARS · [illegible]
WED. MAY 11 · $15 ADV/$15 DOOR · DOORS 7:30, SHOW 8
THE LOW ANTHEM
DANIEL LEFKOWITZ
FRI. MAY 13 · $20 ADV/$20 DOOR · DOORS 8, SHOW 9
PETER BJORN & JOHN
BACHELORETTE
SUN. MAY 15 · $17 ADV/$17 DOOR · DOORS 6, SHOW 7
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SHANE HARPER · [illegible]
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MELVINS
PERFORMING [illegible]
PERFORMING [illegible]
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SAT 5/7 9:30 pm $15 $12 advance · REGGAE · RANKIN SCROO · MR. MAJESTIC · MANCHO with CRUCIAL YOUTH BAND feat. GINGER & ALISHA STRINGS
SUN 5/8 6:30 pm $10 · DIA DE LA MADRE CELEBRATION · PACHO Y ORQUESTA EVOLUCIÓN · Salsa Cumbia Merengue · MARINA LAVALLE · Afro-Peruvian
TUE 5/10 9:30 pm $10 · CAJUN ZYDECO · YAA YAA SWAMP BOOGIE · 8 pm [illegible] zydeco dance lesson
WED 5/11 8:00 pm $7 · FOLKDANCE · BALKAN FOLKDANCE · 7 pm dance lessons
THU 5/12 9:00 pm $10 · INDIE FOLK · WHISKERMAN · TREVOR GARROD
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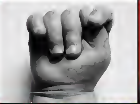

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C[illegible]C

SATURDAY 7

EAST BAY

Blues, Folk & Country

[illegible] Cafe Van Kleef, 9 p.m. [illegible]

[illegible]

East Bay Honky-Tonk [illegible]

[illegible]

Jazz, Lounge & Cabaret

[illegible]

Buz & Joy [illegible] 5:30 p.m. [illegible]

[illegible] Cafe Van Kleef, 9 p.m.

Kids

Los Amiguitos de La Peña Saturday morning children's show w/ live music. La Peña Cultural Center, 10:30 a.m. [illegible]

Rock & Pop

[illegible]

House Live [illegible] p.m.

Soul, Funk, R&B & Hip-Hop

Atmosphere: The Family Tour with [illegible] Fox Theater, 8 p.m. [illegible]

[illegible]

World, Latin, Reggae & Reggaeton

[illegible]

SAN FRANCISCO

Blues, Folk & Country

[illegible]

Jazz, Lounge & Cabaret

[illegible]

Rock & Pop

[illegible]

Soul, Funk, R&B & Hip-Hop

[illegible]

World, Latin, Reggae & Reggaeton

[illegible]

SUNDAY 8

EAST BAY

Blues, Folk & Country

[illegible]

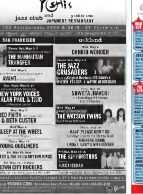
Classical & Opera

[illegible]

Jazz, Lounge & Cabaret

[illegible]

Rock & Pop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Wed May 11
ASLEEP AT THE WHEEL
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Fri May 13
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Blueprint Amoeba Music, 3 p.m. free
Elvis Costello & The Imposters Fox Theater, May 8-9, 8 p.m. $49.50-$85 (sold out)

World, Latin, Reggae & Reggaetón

[illegible] "Early [illegible]" with [illegible] [illegible] Down Low, 9 p.m. $10
[illegible] Café Van Kleef, 6 p.m.

SAN FRANCISCO

Blues, Folk & Country

Songwriter Sundays rotating artists perform in the lounge. Yoshi's San Francisco, 9 p.m.-midnight. $3
Tony Kanoono Johnny Foley's Irish House, 9 p.m. free
[illegible] Sunday [illegible] [illegible] Parkside, 4 p.m. free

Experimental & Avant-Garde

SF [illegible] Featuring The Smith with [illegible] [illegible], Wiener Kids, [illegible] [illegible], and [illegible] Café du Nord, 8 p.m., $10

Gospel & Vocal

Gospel Brunch w/ Future Perfect & rotating guests. 1300 on Fillmore, 11 a.m. & 9 p.m. $38, includes brunch

Jazz, Lounge & Cabaret

[illegible] Quartet Club Fugazi, 2 & 5 p.m. $25-$81
Holly Buckley [illegible] series, 7 p.m. $45-$55
Duck of the Day Sunday [illegible] series, Sinbad, 8 p.m., $20-$30, $45 [illegible] and show
Vince Lateano & Friends featuring [illegible] Speight, Sam Grube-Reeves, & Mark Dilleman, [illegible] Saloon, 4:30-8:30 p.m., $5

Rock & Pop

Tinariwen and Indians with The Caribbean Coup and [illegible] The Artist, [illegible] Tavern, 9 p.m. $8
Dirty Ghosts with Ree Pettitas, The Fillmore, 8 p.m. $18.50
[illegible] Presents The [illegible] with Charlie Mars and [illegible], Great American Music Hall, 8 p.m. $24
[illegible] with [illegible], Rickshaw Stop, 7 p.m. $20-$40
William Fitzsimmons The Independent, 8 p.m. $20

MONDAY 9

EAST BAY

All Ages

Parlor Tango Argentine tango, Caffe Trieste, 7-9 p.m. free

Blues, Folk & Country

***Uptown Bomb Motion** [illegible] w/ Motion Bomb Revue, The Uptown, 8 p.m., $5

Rock & Pop

Elvis Costello & The Imposters Fox Theater, 8 p.m. $49.50-$85 (sold out)

World, Latin, Reggae & Reggaetón

All [illegible] featuring [illegible] Regional Jazz Combination [illegible], 8:30 p.m., free

SAN FRANCISCO

Blues, Folk & Country

[illegible] Ireland's 32 Pub & Café, 8 p.m., free

Jazz, Lounge & Cabaret

La Jazz and Le Colonial, 7 p.m. and

Rock & Pop

[illegible] Johnny Foley's Irish House, 9 p.m. free
Joel with [illegible] (Arbours), [illegible] and Wenders, Elbo Room, 8 p.m. $8, $10
Mogwai The Regency Presents, 8 p.m., $22.50-$25
TV on the Radio The Independent, May 9-11, 9 p.m. $30
Ty Segall with Buttons and The [illegible], Café du Nord, 8 p.m. $10

TUESDAY 10

EAST BAY

Blues, Folk & Country

Tuesday Modern Dance Night w/ [illegible] [illegible] Bar & Grill, 7:30-11 p.m. free
Jam Night w/ [illegible] Mojo Lounge, 8:30 p.m. free
Taj Mahal and Maria Muldaur Freight & Salvage Coffeehouse, 8 p.m. $48.50, $50.50

Experimental & Avant-Garde

Active Music series: Phillips/Masaoka-yu/ Lewis Holton/Parker/Della-Monica/Bay Set The Uptown, 8 p.m. free

Jazz, Lounge & Cabaret

Eddie Pasternak Duo w/ [illegible] Café Rouge, 6:30 p.m. free
Jazzschool Tuesdays featuring students from the Berkeley Jazzschool, Jupiter, 8 p.m. free
Bad Bands dinner jazz with guest selected singers, The Alley, 8 p.m., free

Rock & Pop

Nyeboe's Music Box Presents featuring guests from Rogue Wave, Crown City Rockers, Persephone's Bees, Higher Eyes, & more. The Layover, 10 p.m. free

Soul, Hook, R&B & Hip-Hop

The Push Stopper spoken word event with [illegible] and folk, Disney's Lounge, 8 p.m. free

World, Latin, Reggae & Reggaetón

Prayeste a Zapateo! Son & Jarocho [illegible] son jarocho workshops, La Peña Cultural Center, May 10-11, 7-9 p.m., $20 per class, $60 for all 4 classes

SAN FRANCISCO

All Ages

Stompy Jones Verdi Club, 9:30 p.m., $10

Jazz, Lounge & Cabaret

Bombshell Betty and her Burlesqueteers with live music by [illegible], Elbo Room, 9 p.m. $10
Marty Eggers Pier 23, 8:30 p.m. free
Bahiana Scales playing soft jazz tables, Top of the Mark, 6:30-11:30 p.m., $5-$10
Tuesday Night Jump! Stompy Jones plays 1930s jazz and swing, dance lesson, Verdi Club, 9 p.m. $10-$17
Wesla Whitfield & the Mike Greensill Trio Rrazz Room, 7:30 p.m. $35, $40, $45

Rock & Pop

[illegible] (The [illegible] from [illegible]) with Cool [illegible] and [illegible] Energy Presents [illegible], 8 p.m. $8
[illegible] The Regency Ballroom, 8 p.m. $18.50
[illegible] with Max & Erin Gramma, and special guest Imaginary Friend, Café du Nord, May 10-11, 8 p.m. $10
My [illegible] with [illegible] and The Broad Stroke, [illegible], 10 p.m., $40
The Rasmacations with Tamaryn, Bottom of the Hill, 8 p.m., $15
TV on the Radio The Independent, 9 p.m., $30

WEDNESDAY 11

EAST BAY

Blues, Folk & Country

Melissa Phillips High Wire Station, 7:30 p.m. $5-$15
Valerie [illegible] Freight & Salvage Coffeehouse, 8 p.m. $24.50, $26.50

Experimental & Avant-Garde

Subtle Brass with [illegible] Mama Buzz Café, 7 p.m. donations accepted

Jazz, Lounge & Cabaret

Red Lions & [illegible] Wave [illegible] Roadhouse, 8:30 p.m. free
Jazz Theory Performance [illegible] with Carl Garrett 54th Street Gallery, 6-8 p.m.
Live Jazz Townhouse Bar & Grill, 7:30 p.m. free
Bad Bands dinner jazz with guest [illegible] singers, The Alley, 8 p.m., free

Rock & Pop

Death Fire Radio Presents, Big This! This week, [illegible], [illegible] Celebrate, [illegible] Madness, and Go Tired The Uptown, 8 p.m. and

Soul, Hook, R&B & Hip-Hop

The Bumptet Jupiter, 8 p.m. free

World, Latin, Reggae & Reggaetón

Caribbean Night with Reggae Flash and DJ Mandlik, Disney's Lounge, 9 p.m. free
Prayeste a Zapateo! Son & Jarocho [illegible] son jarocho workshops, La Peña Cultural Center, 7-9 p.m., $20 per class, $60 for all 4 classes

SAN FRANCISCO

Blues, Folk & Country

[illegible] Presents Elbo Room, 8 p.m., $8
Tony Kanoono Johnny Foley's Irish House, 9 p.m. free

Jazz, Lounge & Cabaret

[illegible] Club Fugazi, 8 p.m. $25-$11
[illegible] Top of the Mark, 7:30-11:30 p.m. $17
[illegible] Cosmo & [illegible], [illegible] 1 p.m.
[illegible] the [illegible] Sessions, [illegible] 8 p.m. free
Wesla Whitfield & the Mike Greensill Trio Rrazz Room, 7:30 p.m., $35, $40, $45

Rock & Pop

Capt. Ahab with [illegible] (UK) and Heavy Petting, [illegible] 9 p.m. $7
Kills (UK) with Cold Cave and Eternal Band, The Fillmore, 8 p.m. $25
[illegible] with Max & Erin Gramma, and special guest Imaginary Friend, Café du Nord, 8 p.m. $15
[illegible] with Burnt House and [illegible], Bottom of the Hill, 8 p.m., $8
Bahiana with Bahiana [illegible], [illegible] 330 Club, 8 p.m. $22-$25
[illegible] with [illegible], Keep Of Kalessin, [illegible], and [illegible], The Regency Ballroom, 8 p.m. $25
Tommy & the High Pilots with [illegible] and [illegible], Milk, 9 p.m. $10
Presents Vs. [illegible] of [illegible] [illegible] Lounge, 8 p.m. $10

World, Latin, Reggae & Reggaetón

[illegible] Presents [illegible] Quartet with [illegible] The Independent, 9 p.m. $20
Freddy [illegible] and [illegible] featuring Mediterranean, & contemporary folk, Peña Performance 8 p.m. $12

Submissions for music listings should be e-mailed to Clubs@EastBayExpress.com or mailed to Clubs Editor, East Bay Express, 620 3rd St., Oakland, CA, 94607. Deadline is 14 days prior to the event date.

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DJ & DANCE

THURSDAY 5

EAST BAY

Boutique Night w/ DJ and VJ Joe C. spinning hip-hop, R&B, dancehall & Top 40. White Horse Inn, 9 p.m., $5, students free w/ valid ID.

Club Fever w/ Seisure Bass Sound spinning reggae & dancehall. Shattuck Down Low Lounge, 10 p.m., free.

Bangh Club w/ DJs Kool Karo & Chris Fox. Mosaic Tower Lava, 9 p.m., free.

Delicious Thursdays Radio, 10 p.m., free.

DJ AdiG spinning eclectic ear candy. Kingman's Lucky Lounge, 9 p.m., free.

DJ Jerry Bats spinning soul, funk, hip-hop, R&B & more. Easy Lounge, 10 p.m., free.

DJ Night DJs spinning funkadelic pop, mind-blowing rock, & urban hip-hop. Kip's Restaurant, 9:30 p.m., free.

DJ Trick spinning lounge. Lost Weekend Lounge, 6 p.m.-2 a.m., free.

Jungle Boogie with T.K. Pulson, Kool Kyle, and Uncle Joe. Luka's Taproom & Lounge, 9 p.m., free.

Subversive Swagger w/ Duskfin spinning dark, electro, new wave, & more. The Layover, 9:30 p.m., free.

Splendor Gloria De Mayo w/ DJ Zaph and Mosey Cuerevo Spice, 9 p.m., free.

Early ladies night w/ DJs, acutaic spinning hip-hop & R&B. Club 21, 9 p.m., $12-$15.

Temple of Boom w/ DJ Fluid Cut spinning hip-hop, R&B. The Mosaic Lounge, 10 p.m., free.

Throwback Thursdays Shibaura Nightclub, 9 p.m., $4.

We Got The Club spinning DJ Jamo spinning 70s & 80s hits. Forbidden Bangh, 6 p.m., free.

Lounge Bangh Sessions spinning DJs Carlos Merlo and Cutf, Bangh and Bar, 9 p.m., free.

FRIDAY 6

EAST BAY

After to Party Fridays DJs TEKK, Lewis, Bongo & Short Kut spin dancehall, reggae & R&B. New Karibbean City, 9:30 p.m.-1:30 a.m., $5 to $10.

Bra Jak w/ Fast Eddy Baxter and his Friends spinning fast raps and slow jams. The Mosaic Lounge, 10 p.m., free.

Club 21 w/ DJs spinning Latin music. Club 21, 9 p.m., $8-$15.

spinning w/ DJ Ryan DJ Ryan spinning the hottest music in the Bay Area. White Horse Inn, 9 p.m., $5.

DJ MTM's Sore Glob Soul Leader. The Layover, 10 p.m., free.

DJ Night DJs spinning funkadelic pop, mind-blowing rock, & urban hip-hop. Kip's Restaurant, 9:30 p.m., free.

Friday Nite Jamz w/ DJ Saga K Fever, 10 p.m., $8.

Happy Hours w/ DJ Lounge Dawn spinning punk, rock, indie, & more rock. The box soul Lounge, 5-8 p.m., free.

Latin Explosion DJs large Lounge Beta rumba, salsa, merengue, bomba, Spanish pop, & house. Shoom and Bar, 9 p.m.-2 a.m., $8-$15.

Moodinia weekly Mosaic DJ series. Amoeba Music, 8:30 p.m., free.

Old Bedrest hip-hop and funk. Radio, 9 p.m., free.

Oldies Night with DJ Electro spinning reggae, roots, salsa, & R&B. Island Paradise Club, 10 p.m., ladies free before 11:30 p.m.

Quixotic DJ Nat Quizzically funk, Latin, & dub. Easy Lounge, 10 p.m., free.

Shoefanatic Forest Infinity Finest '70s pop night. Kingman's Lucky Lounge, 9 p.m., free.

Sultry Riders DJ Leigh & Fat Rob spin R&B & soul. Kimball's Carnival, 9 p.m., $6.

Testify w/ DJ Jarvic Preyem spinning northern soul, Motown, 60s, finest punk, new wave, & rock 'n' roll. Ruby Room, 10 p.m., free.

Vybz Int'l w/ DJs Tobo, Island & Maverick spinning roots, reggae, dancehall, & soul. Shashamane Restaurant, 10 p.m., $5.

Bangh Club Fridays spinning DJ Tropic spinning Jahmbop, roots, samba, salsa, merengue, dancehall, reggae, bhangra, Arabic music, & more. Congo Lounge, 10 p.m.

SATURDAY 7

EAST BAY

AD Productions & Mondaylife DJs spinning R&B & hip-hop, baves, 10 p.m., free.

Brasil" with DJ Abel Damasceno & Zakeyon Kalawa Shattuck Down Low, 9 p.m., $5-$10.

Club Maxwell Sikoo Jerry Glum & Soul Problem spin R&B, soul, funk, reggae, & hip-hop. Maxwell's Lounge, 9 p.m., $10.

Club Mosaic w/ DJs Kurn, Chris, Bige T & Bangh spinning hip-hop & R&B. Bangh and Bar, 9 p.m., $8-$12.

DJ Night DJs spinning funkadelic pop, mind-blowing rock & urban hip-hop. Kip's Restaurant, 9:30 p.m., free.

Separator Saturday Night w/ DJ and. White Horse Inn, 9 p.m., $5.

La Bota Loca Latin cowboy night w/ DJs spinning banda, norteño, & more. Club 21, 9 p.m., $6-$15.

Magic Milk Bangh DJ Fluid & Bangh host germ-surfing extravaganza. Kingman's Lucky Lounge, 9 p.m., free.

Mac Kane & Crew w/ DJs Mac Kane and Farmer's Market verticals. 2:00 p.m. Easy Lounge, 9 p.m., free.

Pop History 101 DJs spin pop from the Stooges to Michael Jackson. Ruby Bangh, 10 p.m.-2 a.m., free.

Temple Night Congo Lounge, 10 p.m., free.

Sneeven Saturdays DJ Jamo & guests spin soul, hip-hop, R&B, salsa, reggaeton, & more. Luka's Taproom & Lounge, 9 p.m., $10.

Sotegue Kaimoa w/ DJ Mosaic Shattuck Down Low, 9 p.m., $10, $5 students.

The Stronghold Bangh featuring DJ Bot, The Layover, 10 p.m., free.

Mondala w/ DJ Fluid Cut spinning hip-hop, R&B. The Mosaic Lounge, 9:30 p.m., free.

SUNDAY 8

EAST BAY

Weekly Boutique beats, funk, & more. Easy Lounge, 9 p.m., free.

Bangh Mosaic spinning rock on vinyl. Bar 355, 10 p.m., free.

King of Kings DJ Selecta Boo and guests spin reggae, dancehall, roots, & lovers' rock. Shattuck Down Low, 9 p.m., $10, ladies, students free before 11 p.m.

Lay It Velvet Sundays featuring DJ Fox Trouse. The Layover, 2 p.m., free.

Major DJ Mosaic spinning soul, funk, & Afrocentric old school. Sunset Bar & Lounge, 9 p.m., free.

Ice Soul-Full Jams DJ Adid Ben & guests spin soulful grooves. Luka's Taproom & Lounge, 6 p.m., free.

Sunset, Fun & Ska Sundays DJs spin ska, rocksteady, & roots reggae. The Honey Tony Club, 1 p.m., free.

MONDAY 9

EAST BAY

DJ Aage spinning dub, ska, & soul. Easy Lounge, 9 p.m., free.

Monday Beta spinning DJs hip-hop. Hester The New Parish, 10 p.m., $5.

Mystery Night DJs spin hip-hop, new wave, & electro. Ruby Room, 10 p.m., free.

Sound Mechanics featuring DJs spinning rock and a fake mechanic. The Layover, 9:30 p.m., free.

Underground Lounge psycho '60s & garage '70s music. Radio, 10 p.m.-2 a.m., free.

Lounge Kung Out? w/ DJ Kifal spinning rock and roll, soft hits, spiegs, & soul. The Mosaic Lounge, 10 p.m., free.

TUESDAY 10

PICK

Big Payback
7 Year Anniversary

In the seven years since its genesis, local marketing company **True Skool** has cemented its role as the Bay Area's primary hip-hop booster — particularly for artists who don't get played on commercial radio. The company now operates as a promoter, calendar, event producer, social network, and preservationist of sorts, in the sense that it celebrates authenticity in hip-hop, however abstract the concept. Founder **Ben Salgado (aka DJ Ben Big Vinyl Archaeologist)** seems more concerned with that mission than with maintaining a high profit margin. He's constantly "giving back" to hip-hop audiences, most notably by providing low-cost DJ parties, where the payoff far exceeds the price of admission. His **Big Payback** series has become a Bay Area staple, with its rotating cast of wax-slingers (or **Serato** handlers) spinning everything from Top 40 to nostalgic soul music. The 7-Year Anniversary edition features **Pam the Funkstress, DJ Platurn, Franky Fresh, DJ Zeph,** and **Davey D.** Ben will also do a set to make good on the True Skool name. At **Club Mighty** (119 Utah St., San Francisco) on Saturday, May 7, 10 p.m., $15. Mighty119.com or TrueSkool.com
— *Rachel Swan*

EAST BAY

DJ Jenna Jenna Money spinning rock, Goth punk, new wave, & more. The Mosaic Lounge, 10 p.m., free.

DJ Joel RMA spinning house & Latin funk. Easy Lounge, 9 p.m., free.

DJ Night DJs spinning funkadelic pop, mind-blowing rock, & urban hip-hop. Kip's Restaurant, 9:30 p.m., free.

Escape college night spinning DJ Speedy & DJ Prism. Club 21, 9 p.m., free.

Job Quiba Spins Vinyl Cuna Velvete, 9 p.m., free.

Ghak Pyok Luka's Taproom & Lounge, 10 p.m.

Vintage DJ Toph Gad & weekly Bangh spinning deep cuts from the 60's through tomorrow. Lavende East, 7 p.m., free.

WEDNESDAY 11

EAST BAY

80s Night with Mr. DNA Mr. DNA Quiba songs from the '80s, plus punk hip-hop, by Cary. Easy Lounge, 9 p.m., free.

Quiba Jay w/ DJs Jet & Chet Mosaic Anteom. The Mosaic Lounge, 10 p.m.-2 a.m., free.

The Jet Set with DJ Santero and guests. Luka's Taproom & Lounge, 9 p.m., free.

The Quiba 101" Hump Day Hip-Hop w/ DJs spinning hip-hop. Club 21, 9 p.m., $6-$15.

Paranoiac Latin cowboy night w/ host Violeta. Bangh and Bar, 7 p.m., $6-$15. ■

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SAT 10PM — SMOOVE SATURDAYS — DJs JAMO & MARCELLA (LADYFU) — hip hop, neo soul & world flavors

SUN 9PM — THE SOUL FULL GLOW — RESIDENT DJ AEBLORE — soulful music for dancing... Get up!!

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FRIDAYS — LIVE — MIDNITE — [illegible] REGGAE FROM ST. CROIX

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SAT 5/7 8PM $12 — GYPSY JAZZ FROM AROUND THE BAY — [illegible]

THU 5/12 8PM $8 — PINTS & PICKIN' AT THE PLOUGH — WEST COAST RAMBLERS

FRI 5/13 8:30PM $8 — PINE AND BATTERY — [illegible]

SAT 5/14 8:30PM $8 — THE REAL NASTY — [illegible]

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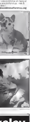

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SAVAGE LOVE

CONSENSUAL SEX

Not always as simple as it seems.

By Dan Savage

I was hanging out with a guy who is in a relationship. I told him nothing could happen, and we decided to keep things friendly. A while ago, I made the drunken mistake of climbing into the backseat of a car with him, and things got racy pretty quickly. He asked if I was on birth control. I told him yes, because I was, and he penetrated me and came inside me after one thrust.

The next day, I got all emotional, and he's since stopped talking to me because I freaked. Here we are a bit later, and I just had a pregnancy scare. Had I been pregnant, I would have had an abortion. If I'd actually been facing an abortion, I would have called and told him. Would that have been the right thing to do?

Classy Lady

A woman who is pregnant and has decided to have an abortion should tell the guy who knocked her up about the pregnancy and her decision to abort — unless she sincerely believes — or even legitimately suspects — that the guy is gonna bully, badger, and/or do violence to her in an attempt to prevent her from choosing abortion.

Guys need to know when they've dodged a bullet, CL. Being made aware that he came this close to eighteen years' worth of child support payments can lead a guy to be more cautious with his spunk — and, in some cases, more likely to support choice.

Take the guy you fucked. He needs to know that not all birth control methods are foolproof and not every woman who claims to be on birth control is telling the truth and/or being diligent about taking those pills every day. Hearing that almost-a-daddy bullet whiz past his head may convince him to get on that condom the next time he's fucking a woman he isn't serious about, even if she is (or claims to be) on birth control.

And, sure, gee. This bit is going to get me scratched off the **National Association for the Repeal of Abortion Laws** Christmas card list, which will be a real bummer (last year's card was great: "The Crusades, the Inquisition, clerical sex abuse scandals — all of this could have been prevented. Happy holidays from your friends at NARAL.") but I gotta be me. A guy — a good, decent, nonabusive guy — should be told about an impending abortion so he can, if he feels the abortion is a mistake, make a case for keeping the baby. It's still the woman's choice in the end — there should be absolutely no question about that — but the fetus, if not the uterus, is his, too. It's only fair that the same guy who would be on the hook for child support payments if you decide to go through with the pregnancy be heard out before you follow through on your decision to end it.

I'm a 24-year-old mostly straight girl with a great GGG boyfriend. My problem is with an ex-boyfriend. We met when I was on a break from school. A few months after we got together, I went back to finish my degree in a different state. He was wary about a long-distance thing, but I wanted to try it, and I made promises about our future that I probably shouldn't have. Then the day after we broke up, one of my ex-boyfriends died. I was a total mess for months and completely incapable of dealing with the breakup, which was hard for the guy I'd just broken up with. We wound up ending things on a really bad note.

But it's still not over. He hasn't ever gotten over our relationship, and every few months he calls or e-mails with some new issue or wanting to talk. He's been verbally abusive, and I often want to cut off contact, but because of the death of my other ex-boyfriend, I'm really scared about losing contact with exes. He told me he almost killed himself a couple of years ago. I don't know if it's true, but I can believe it. He accused me of raping him — saying that he'd consented to sex with the understanding that we'd be together forever, and when we broke up, I violated the terms of the agreement under which he had consented to have sex with me. Now he's demanding that I admit to having raped him and threatening to post that I raped him on my Facebook wall.

I know this sounds like a typical crazy-ex story, and I should probably just cut him off, but that feels wrong and I'm worried about him.

Freaked Out Feeling Stuck

Everyone you've ever dated — including the boy you're with now — is fated to die. (You, too, FOFS.) Which means that, as the years grind on, you will eventually lose contact with each and every one of your ex-boyfriends, should you be fortunate enough to outlive them all. You will also one day lose contact with your current boyfriend, if you stay together, or he will one day lose contact with you if you precede him in dropping dead. It might help you cope with the coming inevitable losses, FOFS, if you cut your crazy ex out of your life now, while he's still alive. Think of it as an exercise in letting go.

Stop taking his calls, stop returning his e-mails, and block him on Facebook. You can urge him — in one final e-mail — to move the fuck on already, to get help, and to get a grip. Tell him that you're both too young to waste the rest of your lives processing a failed relationship, and you can add, perhaps in a P.S., that consensual sex in the early stages of a relationship — the stage at which dreamy, ill-advised discussions about a shared future are most common — does not retroactively become rape should that relationship end.

Finally, FOFS: while your ex sounds nutty and vindictive, your reasons for staying in touch with him are slightly batshit. People lose contact with exes all the time. Get over it. If you've convinced yourself that hashing shit out with your manipulative ex is the compassionate, loving thing to do, you're wrong — it's not helping him and it's making you miserable. Or so you say. The longer you go on helping your ex pick at his scabs, the more you look like the kind of controlling, vindictive ex who doesn't really want her exes to get over her. ●

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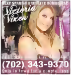
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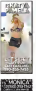
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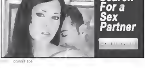
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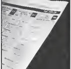

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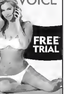

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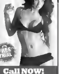

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